

2021 Spring Fire Weather Webinar

National Weather Service, Albany, NY

Dan Thompson, Meteorologist/Fire Weather Program Leader

Steve DiRienzo, Warning Coordination Meteorologist





Outline



1. Introductions
2. Fire Weather Coordination
3. NWS Albany Fire Weather Products
4. NWS Albany Fire Weather Webpage
5. Spot Forecast Webpage
6. 2020 Fire Weather Season Review
7. 2021 Spring Outlook
8. Miscellaneous Items
9. Open Forum

National Weather Service

Mission: provide forecasts and warnings for protection of life and property and enhancement of national economy



NWS Albany



- Department of Commerce
 - NOAA
 - NWS



NWS Albany

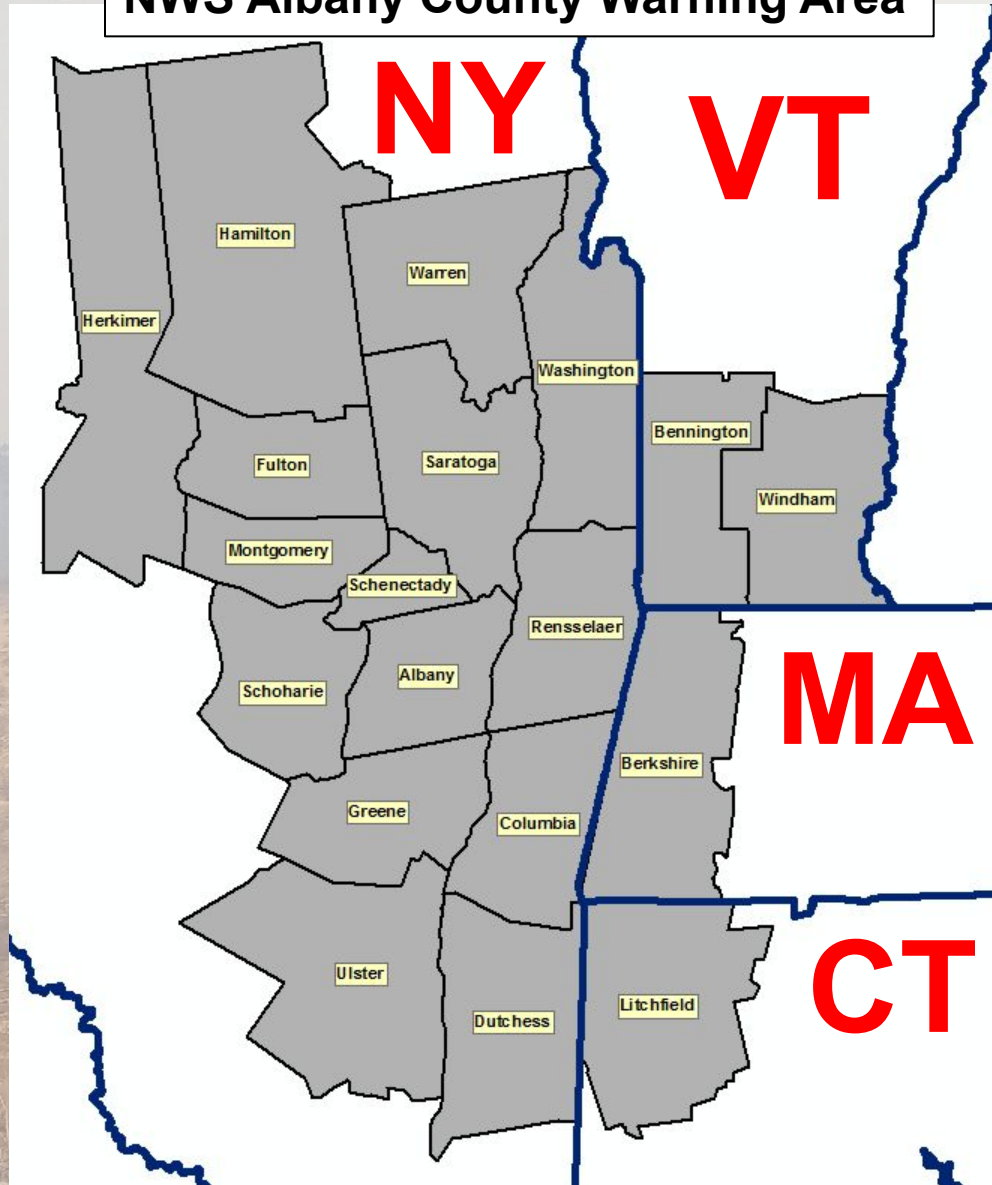


- Located on SUNY-Poly Campus
- About 25 people on staff
- 24/7/365 operations



Fire Weather Coordination

NWS Albany County Warning Area



- NWS Albany is the New York State Liaison office – we coordinate non-routine fire weather products for eastern New York with Captain Jaime Laczko (NYSDEC)
- NWS Burlington coordinates with Vermont
- NWS Norton, MA and Upton, NY coordinate with Massachusetts and Connecticut



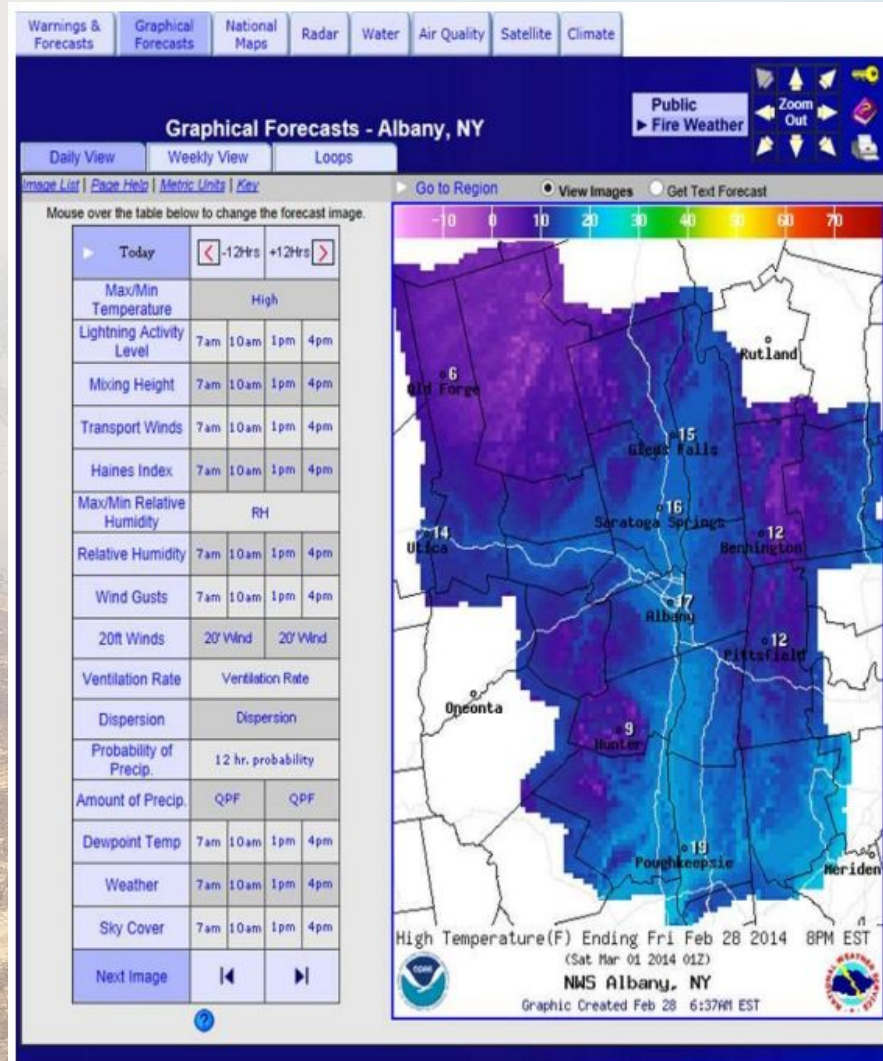
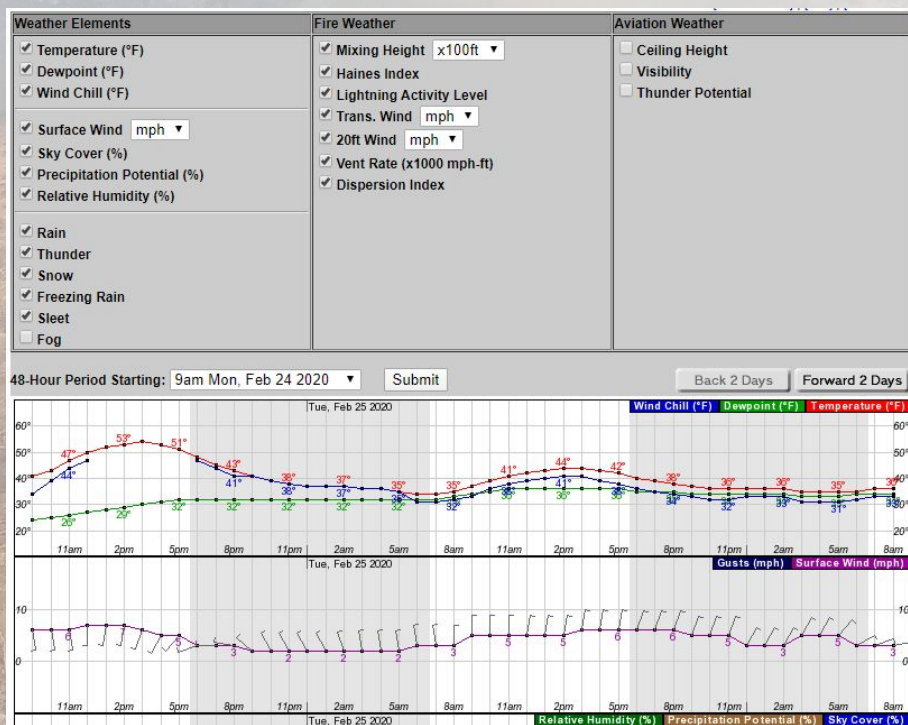
NWS Albany Fire Weather Products



Fire Weather Products

Routine Products

- **Gridded Fire Weather Forecast**
 - Graphical forecast of fire weather elements
 - Updated daily around 4 am/pm (or more frequently if necessary)



Fire Weather Products

Routine Products

• FWF – Fire Weather Planning Forecast

- Brief fire weather discussion, followed by tabular forecast for the next ~48 hours and extended forecast
- Zone-averaged forecast
- Issued daily around 4 am/pm Mar–Nov, updated more frequently if necessary

NYZ032-270915-

Northern Herkimer-

Including the cities of Big Moose, Eagle Bay, McKeever,
Old Forge, Atwell, Nobleboro, and Northwood

537 PM EDT Thu Apr 26 2018

	Tonight	Fri	Fri Night	Sat
CLOUD COVER	PCldy	MCldy	MCldy	MCldy
PRECIP TYPE	Showers	Rain	Showers	Showers
CHANCE PRECIP (%)	40	40	40	60
TEMP (24H TREND)	33 (-7)	54 (+8)	38	53
RH % (24H TREND)	94 (-4)	52 (-19)	100	61
20FTWIND-AM(MPH)		S 6		SW 6
20FTWIND-PM(MPH)	W 10 G18	S 9	SE 7	SW 9
PRECIP AMOUNT	0.01	0.06	0.06	0.11
PRECIP DURATION	1	1	4	6
PRECIP BEGIN	6 PM	10 AM	Continuing	Continuing
PRECIP END	8 PM	Continuing	Continuing	Continuing
MIXING HGT(FT-AGL)		5800		6200
TRANSPORT WND (MPH)		S 16		SW 15
VENT RATE (KT-FT)		81200		80600
DISPERSION		5		5
LAL	1	1	1	1
HAINES INDEX	2	3	2	2

REMARKS...None.





Fire Weather Products

Routine Products

- **FWM – National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) Forecast**
 - Coded point forecasts valid 1300 LT for the next 7 days beginning the following day
 - Issued daily around 3 pm Mar–Nov
 - Issued for six NFDRS sites in eastern NY and southern VT:
 - Albany Pine Bush, NY (300011)
 - Belleayre Mountain, NY (301111)
 - Lake Pleasant, NY (300411)
 - Stony Kill, NY (305103)
 - Saratoga Battlefield, NY (301901)
 - Woodford, VT (431303)

Fire Weather Products

Non-Routine Products: Red Flag Program

- **Fire Weather Watches** and **Red Flag Warnings** are issued when the combination of dry fuels and weather conditions support extreme fire danger and/or fire behavior

Red Flag Criteria

Criteria	Pre Green-Up	Green-Up
Rainfall	< 1/4 inch for at least 5 days	< 1/4 inch for at least 8 days
RH	< 30% for two or more consecutive hours	< 30% for two or more consecutive hours
Wind	sustained and/or gusts at least 25mph or greater for two or more consecutive hours	sustained and/or gusts at least 25mph for greater or two or more consecutive hours
Max Temperature	must be at least 50F for two or more consecutive hours	must be at least 50F for two or more consecutive hours
Fuel	Dry fine surface fuels	Keetch Byram Drought Index of 300 or greater



Fire Weather Products

Non-Routine Products: Red Flag Program

- **Fire Weather Watch:** Issued 18–96 hours in advance of the expected onset of Red Flag conditions to give advance notice
 - Issued per coordination with state fire weather contacts
- **Red Flag Warning:** Issued typically within 24 hours of Red Flag conditions when confidence is high in reaching criteria
 - Issued per coordination with state fire weather contacts
- **Special Weather Statement:** Issued when conditions support enhanced fire weather behavior, but at levels below Red Flag criteria
 - Issued per coordination with state fire weather contacts
 - Issued when temperatures are below 50°F but other Red Flag criteria are expected to be met
 - Also can be issued to raise elevated fire weather awareness for the fire weather community and/or general public



Fire Weather Products

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Fire Weather Products

Non-Routine Products: Spot Forecast

- Detailed forecasts of local conditions in support of wildfire suppression and natural resource management (e.g., prescribed burns)
- Typically issued with a ~20 minute turnaround time from the request
- Requests can be made via weather.gov/spot

A screenshot of the National Weather Service Spot Forecast Request website. The page has a blue header with the NOAA logo and the text "National Weather Service" and "Spot Forecast Request". Below the header is a navigation bar with links: "Home", "NWS Home", "News", and "Organization". The main content area has a yellow background with the title "Spot Forecast Request". Below this is a "NOTICE" section with text about the interface's purpose and legal requirements. Further down is a section titled "Incident and Decision Support Forecast Request" with a description of the site's function. At the bottom, there is a link to provide feedback and two buttons: "Submit Spot Request" and "Monitor Spot Forecasts", each with a brief description of their use.

National Weather Service

Spot Forecast Request

[Home](#) [NWS Home](#) [News](#) [Organization](#)

Spot Forecast Request

NOTICE - This interface is intended to be used solely for the relay of forecast information to the National Weather Service. Submissions sent through this online form are intended for internal agency use. We are required (by e-Gov Act of 2002) to explicitly state that submission of any information is voluntary. For further information please read our [Privacy Policy](#) and [Disclaimer](#). False statements on this form may be subject to prosecution under the False Statement Accountability Act of 1996 (18 U.S.C. § 1001) or other statutes.

Incident and Decision Support Forecast Request

This site is the National Weather Service interface to requesting, filling, and monitoring spot forecasts issued by our Forecast Offices and National Centers.

[Click here to provide 'Spot Webpage Testing Feedback'](#)

Submit Spot Request

Interactive Request:
Request a spot forecast using an interactive map, with or without a Lat/Lon of the incident.

Monitor Spot Forecasts

Monitor:
Use this to monitor existing spot requests and forecasts.

Please take the online survey to let us know what you think of this interface.
[Download the Product Description Document \(PDD\)](#)



NWS Albany Fire Weather Webpage & Spot Forecast Page

**weather.gov/aly/fire
weather.gov/spot**



NWS Albany Fire Weather Webpage



weather.gov/aly/fire

- Redesigned last year - please send feedback to dan.b.thompson@noaa.gov

NWS Albany Fire Weather Webpage

[Weather.gov](https://weather.gov) > [Albany, NY](https://weather.gov/aly) > NWS Albany Fire Weather Webpage

Albany, NY
Weather Forecast Office

[Current Hazards](#) [Current Conditions](#) [Radar](#) [Forecasts](#) [Rivers and Lakes](#) [Climate and Past Weather](#) [Local Programs](#)



[Submit Spot Forecast Request](#)

Questions/comments may be directed to [Dan Thompson](#), Fire Weather Program Leader

[Red Flag Program](#) [Local Products and Forecasts](#) [Fuel Conditions](#) [Drought/Precipitation Info](#) [Long-Range Outlooks](#)
[Fire Weather Outlooks and Fire Danger Forecasts](#) [Observations](#) [Other Resources](#)

Local Products & Resources

[Fire Weather Watch / Red Flag Warning](#)

[Routine Fire Weather Forecast](#)

[Area Forecast Discussion](#)

[Special Weather Statement](#)

[Fire Weather Graphics](#)

[Spring Fire Weather Webinar Slides](#) (PDF) - 2020

[Local Annual Operations Plan](#) - 2020

Local NFDRS Forecasts

300011 = Albany Pine Bush NY
301111 = Belleayre Mountain NY
300411 = Lake Pleasant NY
305103 = Stonykill NY
301901 = Saratoga NY
431303 = Woodford VT

Fire Weather Matrix - Experimental



Fire Weather Dashboard





Spot Forecast Webpage





Spot Forecast Webpage

weather.gov/spot

- Enter nearest address, lat/lon, or click the map

Step 1: Establish incident location using A or B below.

A. Set request location using nearest street address.

Note 1: Valid entries are street address, zip code, city, state, or latitude & longitude.

Note 2: Latitude & Longitude will return the nearest street address. For exact latitude and longitude points use Step B entry below.

Note 3: City, State, and Zip Code will return a geographic centers.

PLOT ADDRESS

- OR -

B. Set request location using latitude & longitude, USNG, left-click on spot location, or drag the map pointer to spot location below.

Note 1: If the map below does not appear you may enter your decimal Lat/Lon below.

Note 2: To start over click the Reload button on your Web Browser.

Note 3: Latitude, Longitude information should be entered in WGS84/NAD83 coordinates in order to ensure accurate forecast locations.

Decimal Degree Latitude, Longitude

West Longitudes Are Negative

Example: 25.6319 -80.2025

49.0291, -95.1926

PLOT

United States National Grid (USNG)

Valid for points between 84N and 80S Latitude

Require 13 character grid - 10 meter precision

Example: 18SUJ23480647

15U UQ 3972 3300

PLOT

Degree, Minute, Seconds

Can accept decimal minutes as an input

Example: 25 deg 19 min 23 sec W

49 deg 1 min 45 sec N
95 deg 11 min 33 sec W

PLOT

Elevation

Latitude & Longitude value used to determine elevation.

If elevation data is in error, changes can be made on the second page of this spot request.

1049 FT

NEW You can now left click to place spot location marker





Spot Forecast Webpage

Step 2: Select the incident type for the request.

Set Incident Type

Fire

☒ Wildfire ☐ Prescribed Fire

Hazardous Materials

☐ HAZMAT Land ☐ HAZMAT Inland Waterway

Search and Rescue

☐ SAR Land ☐ SAR Water

☐ Marine

☐ Other (Volcano, Earthquake, Special Event)

Step 3: Proceed to detailed incident request form.

After setting your location and incident type above, click on the
'Generate A Spot Request'
button below to proceed to the SPOT request form.

Generate A Spot Request





Spot Forecast Webpage



Spot Forecast Incident Type: Wildfire

Spot Request Contact Information

(*) PROJECT NAME: NWS ALY TEST

For NWS Spot forecast policy,
see section 4.0 in NWS Instruction 10-401 at:
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/010.htm>

(*) Requesting Agency: NWS Albany

(*) Requesting Official: Dan Thompson

(*) E-mail address: dan.b.thompson@noaa.gov

(*) Phone number: 555-555-5555

Phone Extension:

Contact Person:

FAX number:

Location

(WGS84 / NAD83 preferred)

(*) Latitude: 42.6759

7.5' Quad:

(*) Longitude: -73.7798

TOP

BOTTOM

Elevation:

243

Feet

Feet

(Elevation preferred in feet)

Fire Weather Supplemental Information

Drainage:

Size:

(In Acres)

Aspect:

Fuel

Type:

Sheltering



Full



Partial



Unsheltered



Spot Forecast Webpage

Specify time information

Specify desired forecast elements

Forecast Information

DELIVER FORECAST

Date : 02/26/2019

Time : As Soon As Possible ▼

FORECAST STARTING

Date : 02/26/2019

Time : 14:00 ▼

TIMEZONE

(Local Time)

EASTERN ▼

Narrative ▼

FORECAST FORMAT

2 Hr ▼

2 Hr ▼

3 Hr ▼

Tabular Time
Table Interval

This Afternoon

Tonight

Wednesday

Select
All
Periods

☐☐

Sky/Weather

☐

Temperature

☐

Humidity

☐

Chance of Wetting
Rain

☐

Chance of
Precipitation

☐

Precipitation Amount

☐

Begin/End of
Precipitation

☐

Max/Min Temperature

☐

Max/Min Humidity

☐

Wind (20 FT)

☐

Wind (Eye Level)

☐

Surface Wind

☐

Mixing Height

☐

Transport Winds

☐

Haines Index

☐

Dispersion

☐

Ventilation Rate

☐

Dewpoint

☐

Smoke Dispersal

☐

NOAA Hysplit Model

Would you like to include a run of the Hysplit Model with this request? If so please verify your email address above as this will be used to send you the hysplit model run.

- ☐ YES
☒ NO

Remarks



Spot Forecast Webpage

Submit
weather
observations
(optional)

Observations

(*) When submitting an observation, the yellow fields are required in addition to at least one weather element.

WX OB 1	WX OB 2	WX OB 3	WX OB 4	WX OB 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove Ob
(*)Site: <input type="text"/>	(*)Site: <input type="text"/>	(*)Site: <input type="text"/>	(*)Site: <input type="text"/>	(*)Site: <input type="text"/>
(*)Date: <input type="text" value="02/26/2019"/>	(*)Date: <input type="text" value="02/26/2019"/>	(*)Date: <input type="text" value="02/26/2019"/>	(*)Date: <input type="text" value="02/26/2019"/>	(*)Date: <input type="text" value="02/26/2019"/>
(*)Time: <input type="text" value="12:45"/> (Local)	(*)Time: <input type="text" value="12:45"/> (Local)	(*)Time: <input type="text" value="12:45"/> (Local)	(*)Time: <input type="text" value="12:45"/> (Local)	(*)Time: <input type="text" value="12:45"/> (Local)
(*)Elev: <input type="text"/>	(*)Elev: <input type="text"/>	(*)Elev: <input type="text"/>	(*)Elev: <input type="text"/>	(*)Elev: <input type="text"/>
Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>	Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>	Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>	Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>	Wind Dir: <input type="text"/>
Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>	Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>	Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>	Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>	Wind Spd: <input type="text"/>
Temp: <input type="text"/>	Temp: <input type="text"/>	Temp: <input type="text"/>	Temp: <input type="text"/>	Temp: <input type="text"/>
WB: <input type="text"/>	WB: <input type="text"/>	WB: <input type="text"/>	WB: <input type="text"/>	WB: <input type="text"/>
RH: <input type="text"/>	RH: <input type="text"/>	RH: <input type="text"/>	RH: <input type="text"/>	RH: <input type="text"/>
Td: <input type="text"/>	Td: <input type="text"/>	Td: <input type="text"/>	Td: <input type="text"/>	Td: <input type="text"/>
Sky: <input type="text"/>	Sky: <input type="text"/>	Sky: <input type="text"/>	Sky: <input type="text"/>	Sky: <input type="text"/>
Wx: <input type="text"/>	Wx: <input type="text"/>	Wx: <input type="text"/>	Wx: <input type="text"/>	Wx: <input type="text"/>
Rmks: <input type="text"/>	Rmks: <input type="text"/>	Rmks: <input type="text"/>	Rmks: <input type="text"/>	Rmks: <input type="text"/>

Submit Spot Request

Clicking the button below will create a one time spot request.

This request will be processed and a forecast will be generated by the servicing forecast office at the time they receive the spot request.

At any time until the expiration of this forecast, another immediate spot request may be generated off of the original request. Additionally, the immediate spot request can be converted into a scheduled request by contacting your servicing forecast office.

Submit Request

Cancel

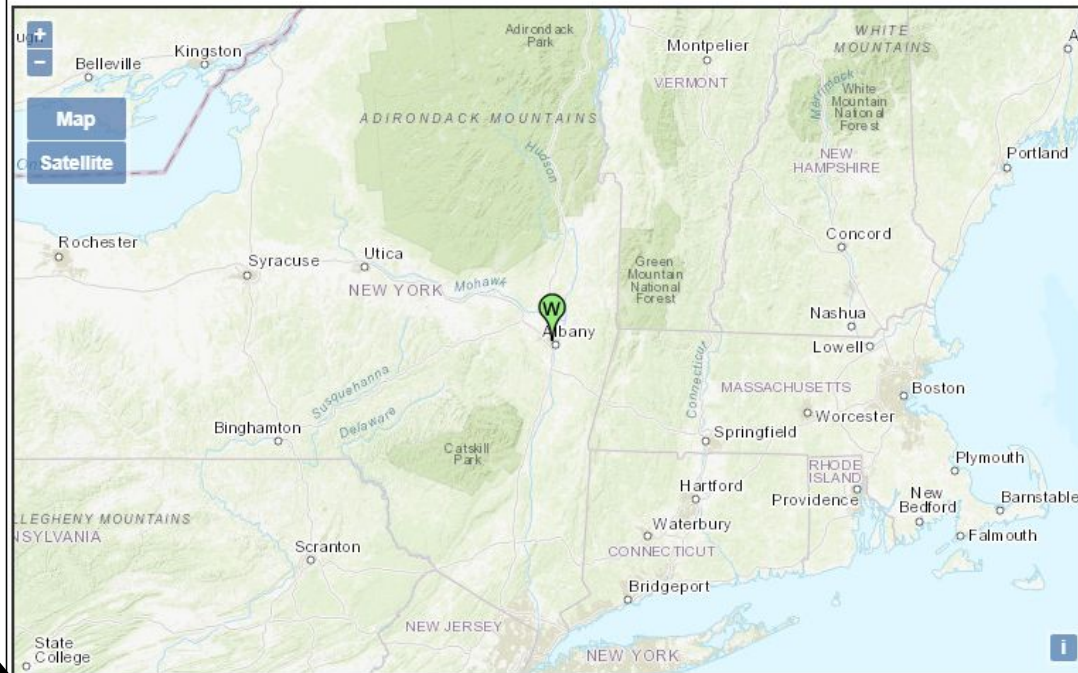
Click "Submit
Request"

Spot Forecast Webpage

Once you submit the request, it will send NWS an alert immediately

Click here once status is "Completed" to view the forecast. An email will also be sent to the address specified in the form when the forecast is ready.









NWS Spot Forecast Monitor



Submit New Spot Request



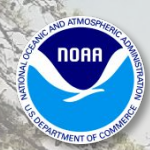
Spot Monitor Legend

-  W = Wildfire
-  P = Prescribed
-  H = Hazmat
-  S = SAR
-  M = Marine
-  Completed
-  Pending
-  Question

Permalink for page bookmark
X:198.206.33.40

Active Spot Forecasts

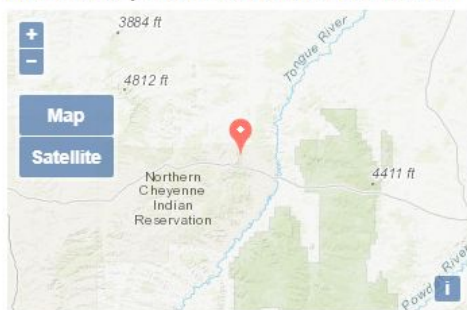
Name	Type/Deliver Time	Status	WFO	Actions
NWS ALY TEST	Wildfire 2019-02-26 12:59 PM EST	Request pending	ALY	Change Request Submit Obs Archive Delete



Spot Forecast Webpage

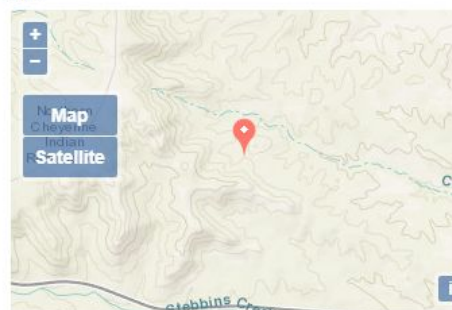
Ash Creek Salvage pile burn Prescribed Fire

Forecast Start Time: 2019-02-26 11:00 AM MST
Request Time: 2019-02-26 10:26 AM MST
Deliver Time: 2019-02-26 10:26 AM MST
Forecast Complete At: 2019-02-26 10:41 AM MST



Location Legal:
Lat/Lon: 45.6356 / -106.433
Quad:
Calculated: 45.6356 / -106.433

Requested By: Northern Cheyenne Agency
Contact:
Phone:
Fax:



Elevation: 3772
Drainage:
Aspect: East
Size:
Fuel Type: (unsheltered)

Observations

Site	Date	Elev	Wind	Temp	WB	RH	Td	Sky	Wx	Rmk
------	------	------	------	------	----	----	----	-----	----	-----

No observations available

[Submit New Observation](#)

Requested Parameters

Remarks

X X X	Sky/Weather
X X X	Temperature
X X X	Humidity
X X X	Chance of Wetting Rain
. . .	Lightning Activity Level
X X X	Wind (20 FT)
X X X	Ridge Top Winds
X X X	Mixing Height
X X X	Transport Winds
X X X	Haines Index

Forecast:

Spot Forecast for Ash Creek Salvage pile burn...Northern Cheyenne Agency
National Weather Service Billings MT
1040 AM MST Tue Feb 26 2019

Forecast is based on ignition time of 1100 MST on February 26.
If conditions become unrepresentative...contact the National Weather Service.

Please contact our office if you have questions
or concerns with this forecast.

.DISCUSSION...

Periods of light snow are expected this afternoon through the evening...decreasing late tonight. Temperatures today will be in the single digits above zero with lows tonight from zero to 10 below zero. Expect west to northwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Thursday will be a little warmer with just some light snow flurries. Winds will be light out of the south. BT

.REST OF TODAY...

Sky/weather.....Cloudy with periods of snow...mainly afternoon and evening.
Max temperature.....Zero to 5 above zero.
Min humidity.....63-68 percent.
Wind (20 ft).....
Slope/valley.....Northwest winds around 9 mph.
Ridgetop.....West around 25 mph.
Mixing height.....1800 ft AGL.
Transport winds.....Northwest around 15 mph.
Haines index.....2 or very low potential for large plume dominated fire growth.
CWR.....22 percent.

.TONIGHT...

Sky/weather.....Cloudy with scattered snow showers.
Min temperature.....3 below-8 below zero.
Max humidity.....77-82 percent.
Wind (20 ft).....
Slope/valley.....Northwest winds around 6 mph.
Ridgetop.....Northwest around 20 mph.
Mixing height.....300 ft AGL.
Transport winds.....Northwest around 9 mph.
CWR.....14 percent.



Spot Forecast Webpage

\$\$
Forecaster...Tesar
Requested by...TravisLimpy
Type of request...PRESCRIBED
.TAG 1901723.1/BYZ
.DELD 02/26/19
.FormatterVersion 1.0.25
.EMAIL travis.limpy@bia.gov

Please Provide Feedback:

Send Feedback

[Back to Forecast Monitor](#) [Printer Friendly Version of Forecast](#) [Latest Forecast](#)
[Copy Info to Spot Request for a New Incident](#) [Copy Info to New Spot Request for this Incident](#)

You can send us feedback in this box,
for instance, if the observed weather
conditions do not match the forecast



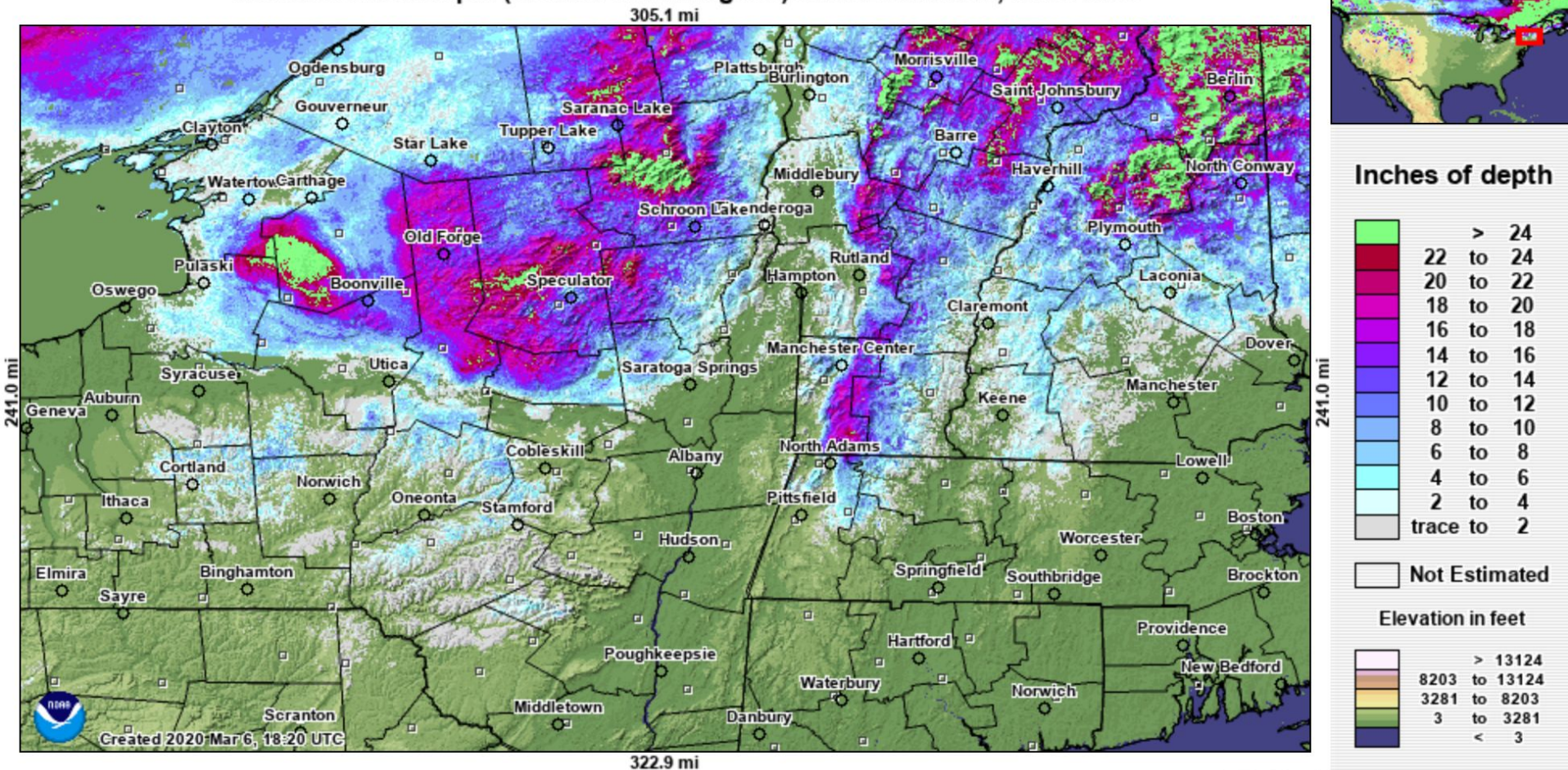
2020 Fire Weather Season Review



2020 Fire Weather Season Review

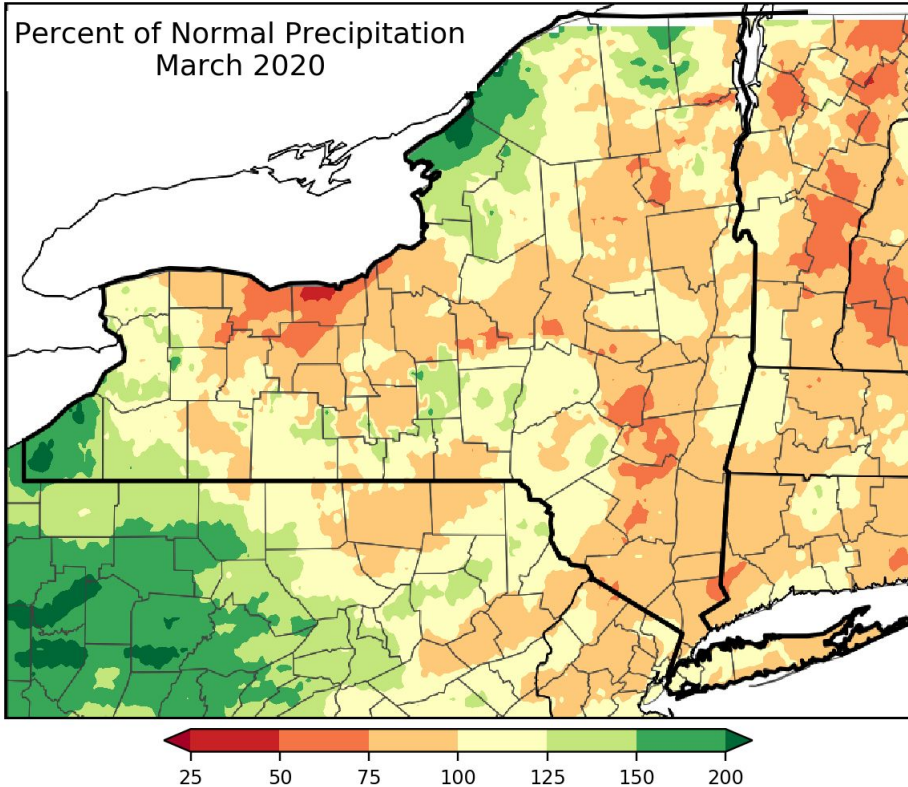
Tame winter – Not much snow cover outside of the Adirondacks/Greens in early March

Modeled Snow Depth (Shallow-snow Legend) for 2020 March 6, 12:00 UTC



2020 Fire Weather Season Review

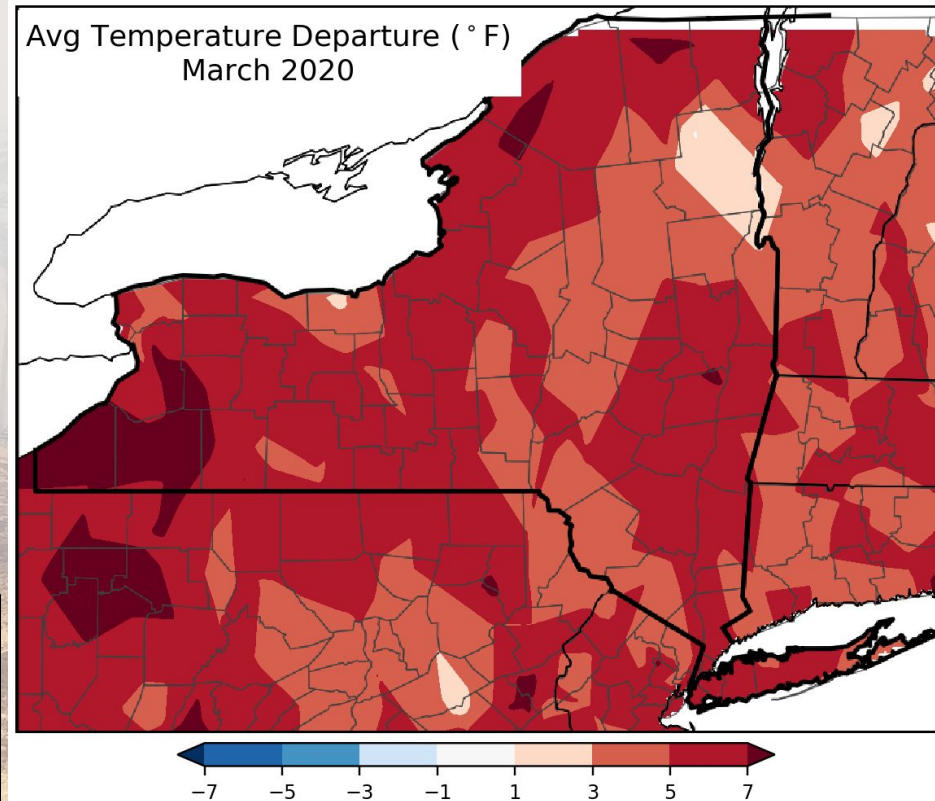
Percent of Normal Precipitation
March 2020



March:

Near to below normal precip
Above normal temps

Avg Temperature Departure (°F)
March 2020



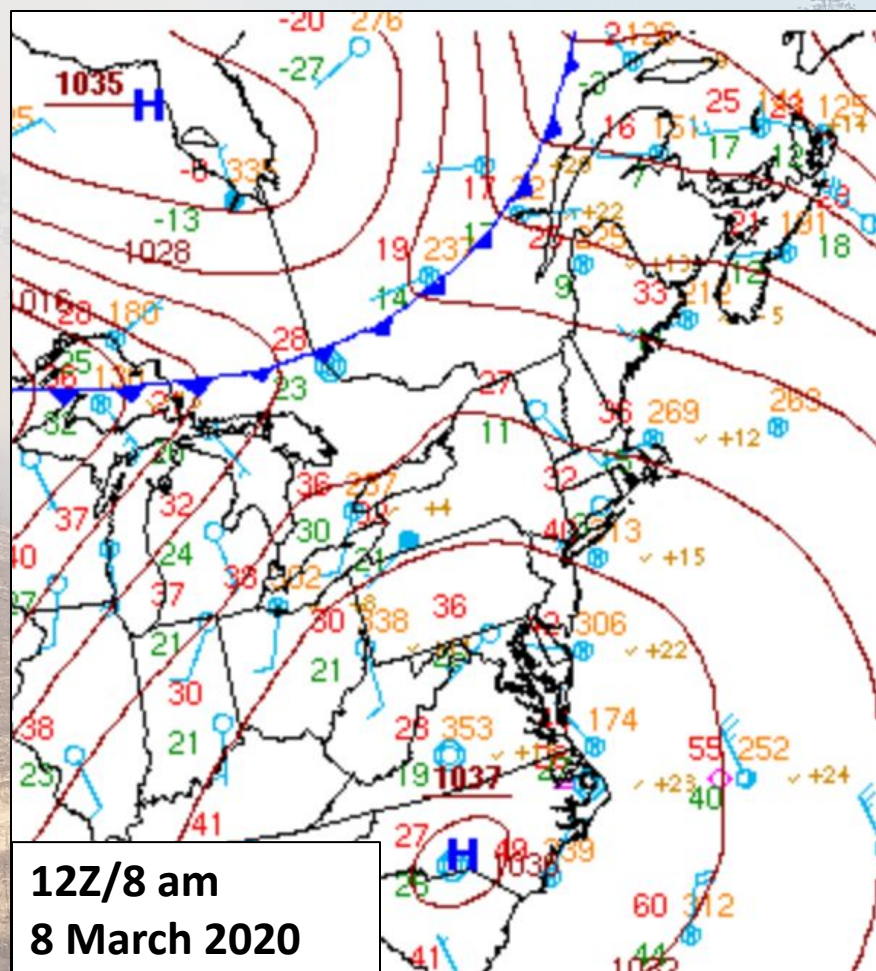
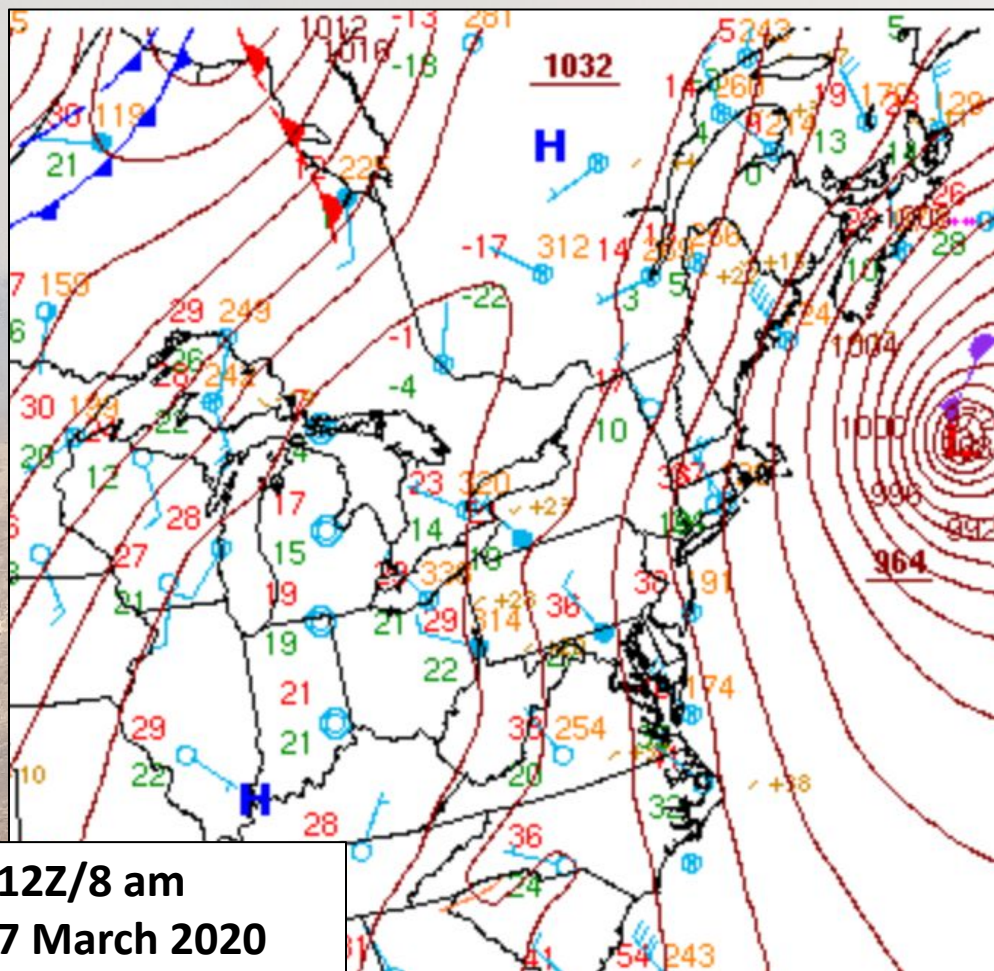
Feb. 28–Mar 9:

Just 0.15" precip at Albany
10/11 days no measurable precip

Albany 7th warmest March
Poughkeepsie 8th warmest March

2020 Fire Weather Season Review

- Special Weather Statements issued March 7–9 for elevated risk of fire spread



2020 Fire Weather Season Review

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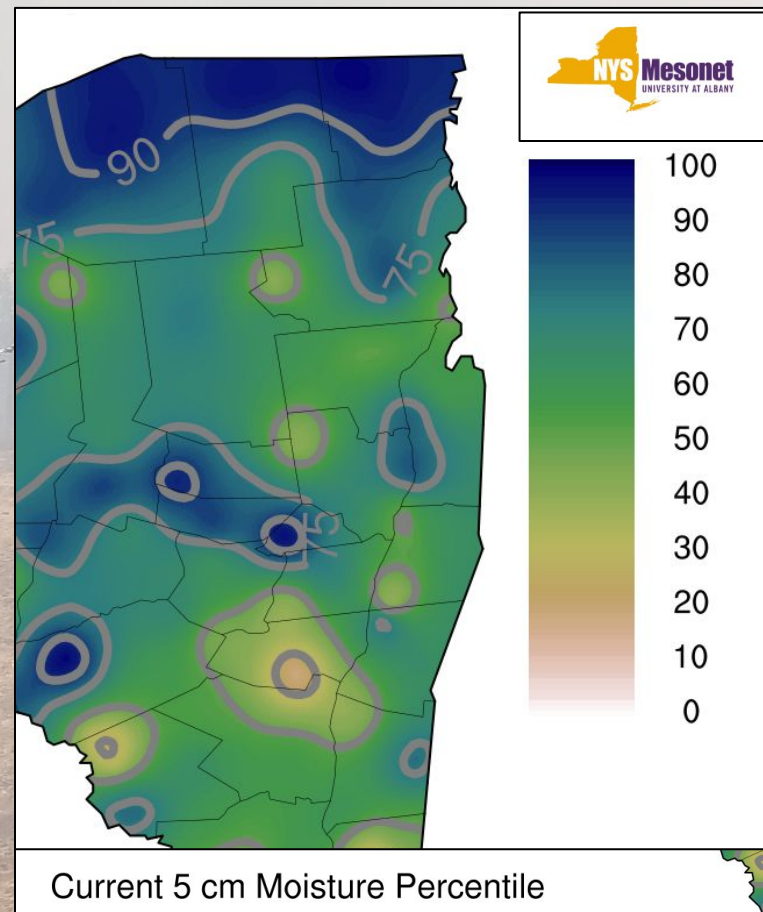
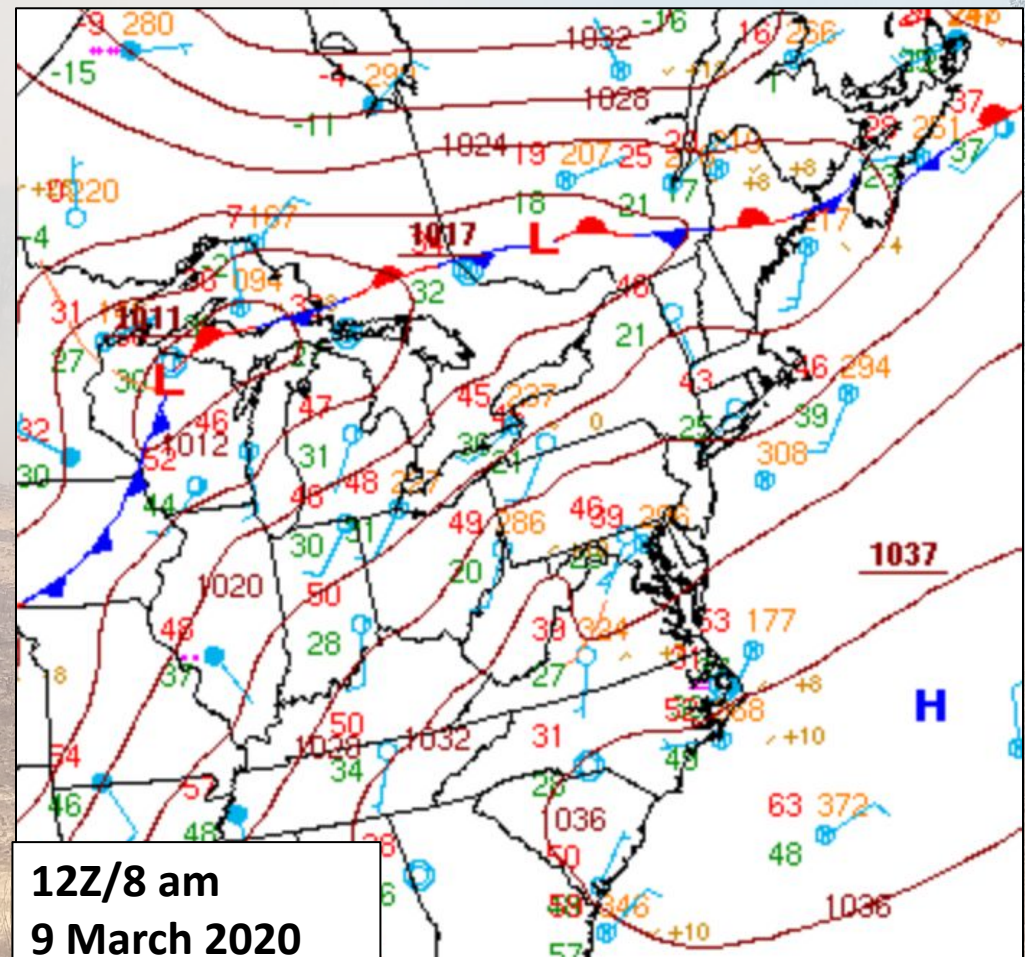


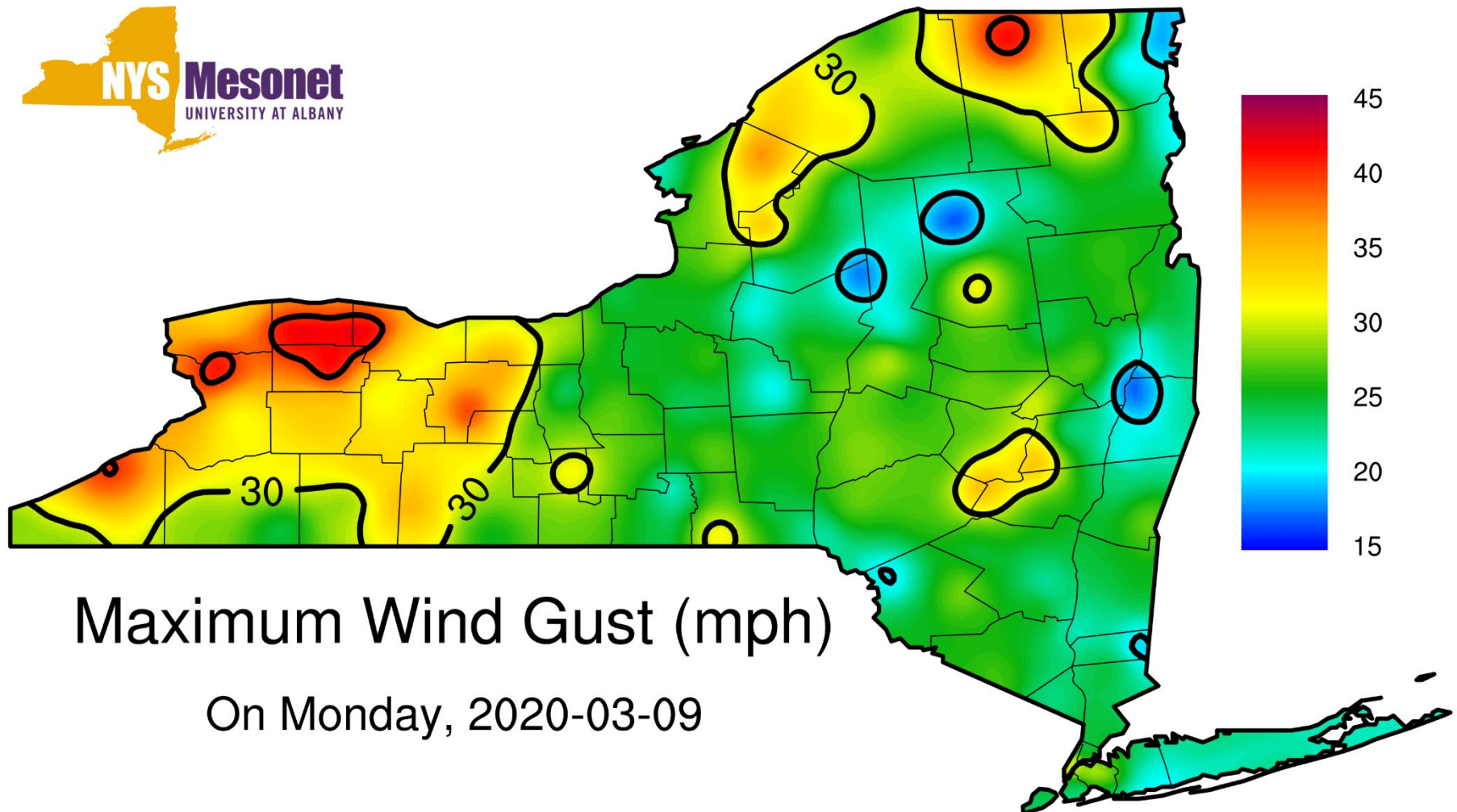
Figure created on Mon, 2020-03-09, at 12:04 UTC
Station Count: 119 Stations Used

Past 3 Years Considered. Percentiles Contoured: 1st, 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, 90th, and 99th.



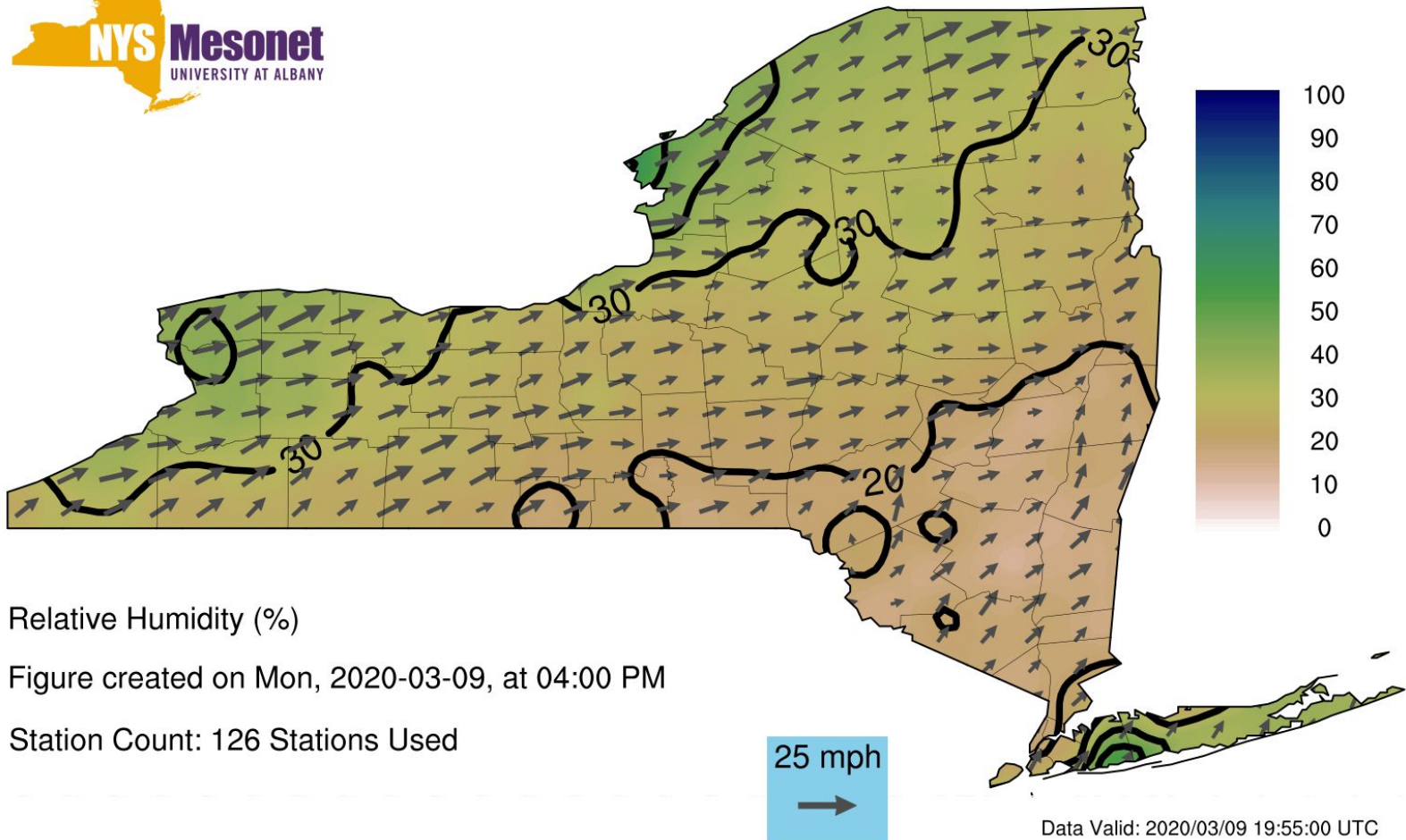
2020 Fire Weather Season Review

- Special Weather Statements issued March 7–9 for elevated risk of fire spread



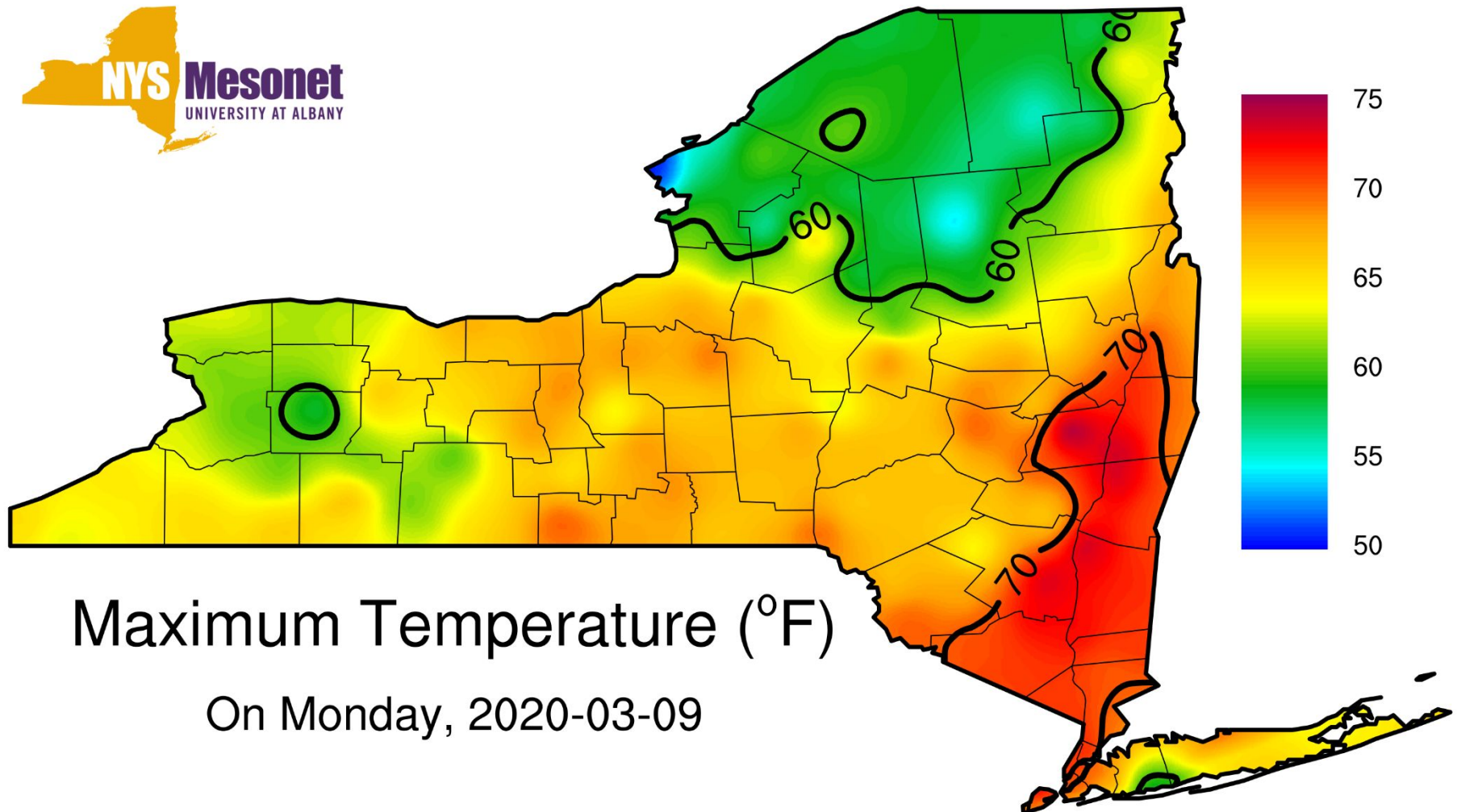
2020 Fire Weather Season Review

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2020 Fire Weather Season Review

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2020 Fire Weather Season Review

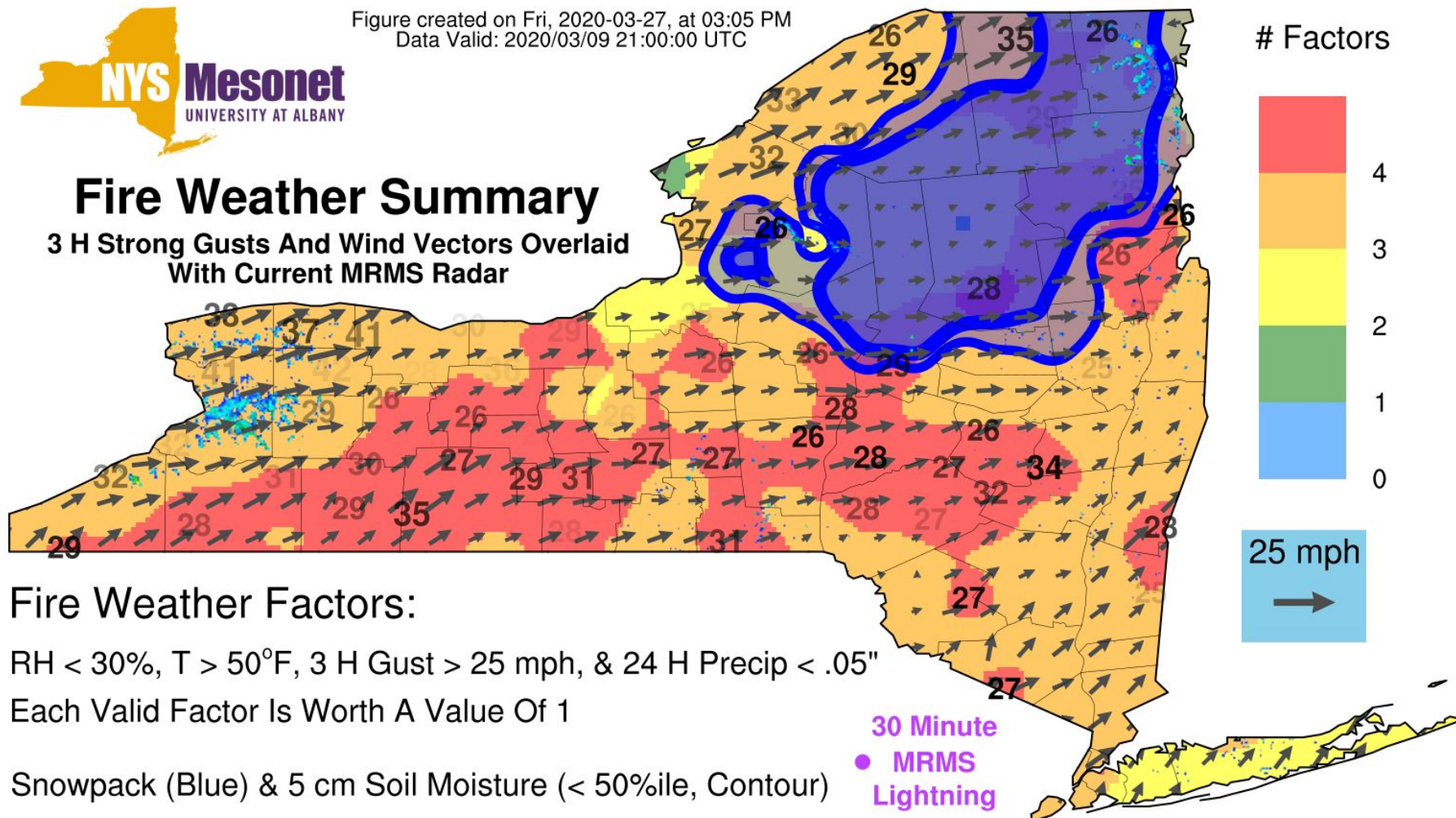
- Special Weather Statements issued March 7–9 for elevated risk of fire spread

Figure created on Fri, 2020-03-27, at 03:05 PM
Data Valid: 2020/03/09 21:00:00 UTC



Fire Weather Summary

3 H Strong Gusts And Wind Vectors Overlaid
With Current MRMS Radar



Fire Weather Factors:

RH < 30%, T > 50°F, 3 H Gust > 25 mph, & 24 H Precip < .05"

Each Valid Factor Is Worth A Value Of 1

Snowpack (Blue) & 5 cm Soil Moisture (< 50%ile, Contour)

2020 Fire Weather Season Review

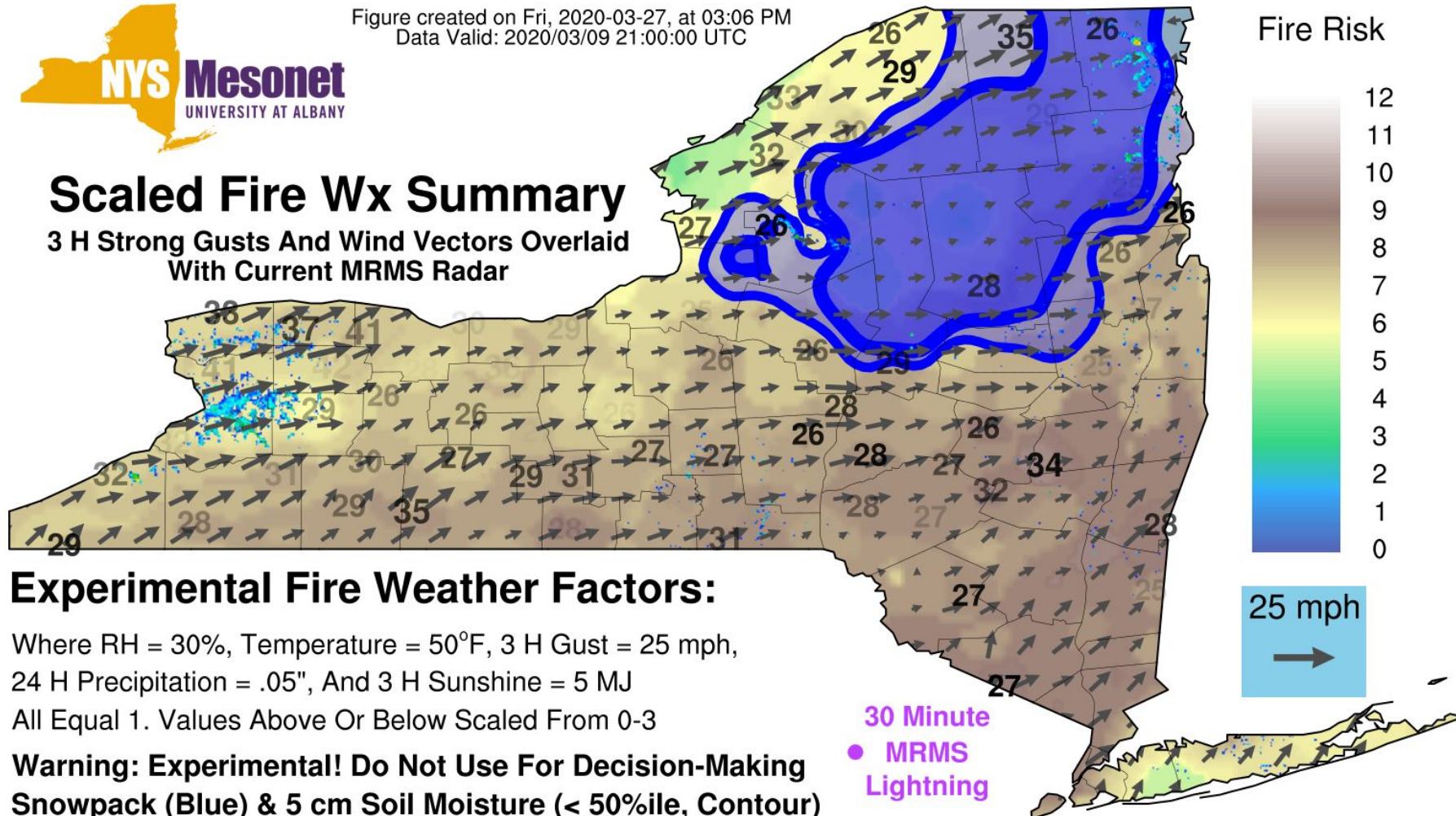
- Special Weather Statements issued March 7–9 for elevated risk of fire spread

Figure created on Fri, 2020-03-27, at 03:06 PM
Data Valid: 2020/03/09 21:00:00 UTC



Scaled Fire Wx Summary

3 H Strong Gusts And Wind Vectors Overlaid
With Current MRMS Radar



Experimental Fire Weather Factors:

Where RH = 30%, Temperature = 50°F, 3 H Gust = 25 mph,
24 H Precipitation = .05", And 3 H Sunshine = 5 MJ
All Equal 1. Values Above Or Below Scaled From 0-3

Warning: Experimental! Do Not Use For Decision-Making
Snowpack (Blue) & 5 cm Soil Moisture (< 50%ile, Contour)

30 Minute
MRMS
Lightning

2020 Fire Weather Season Review

- Breakneck Ridge Fire, 9 Mar 20, Dutchess-Putnam Border
 - Possible cause: spark from nearby Metro North RR tracks
 - Destroyed 11 vehicles, closed Route 9D, caused delays on Metro North Hudson Line, closed hiking trails
 - Contained by 10 March after burning 277 acres



20 brush fires in Dutchess County Mar 5–11



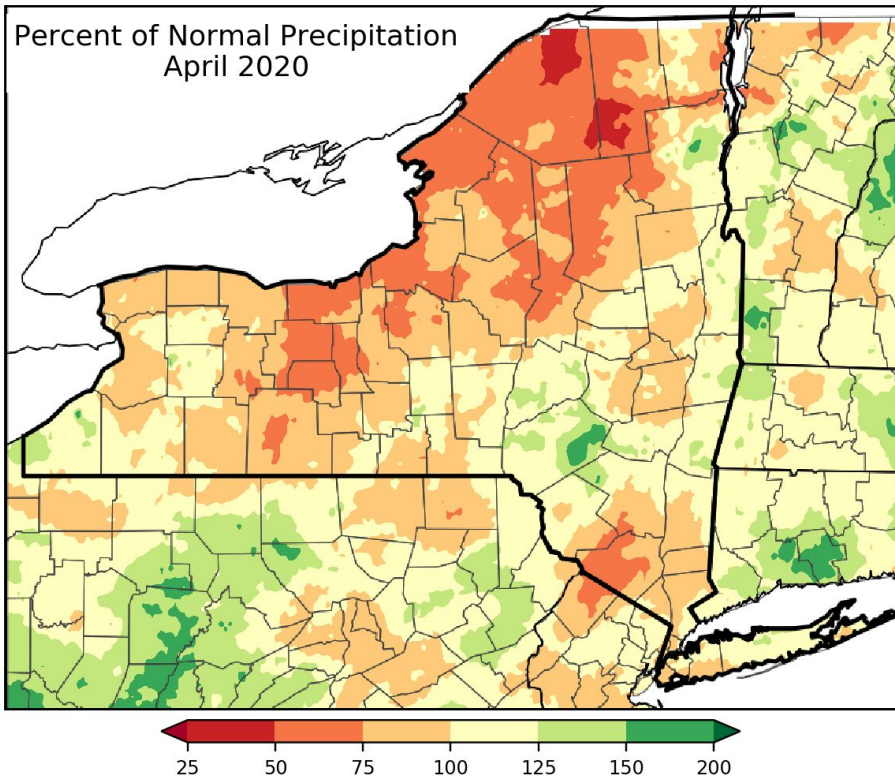
Credit: Town of Fishkill PD



Credit: Allyse Pulliam, Middletown Times Herald-Record

2020 Fire Weather Season Review

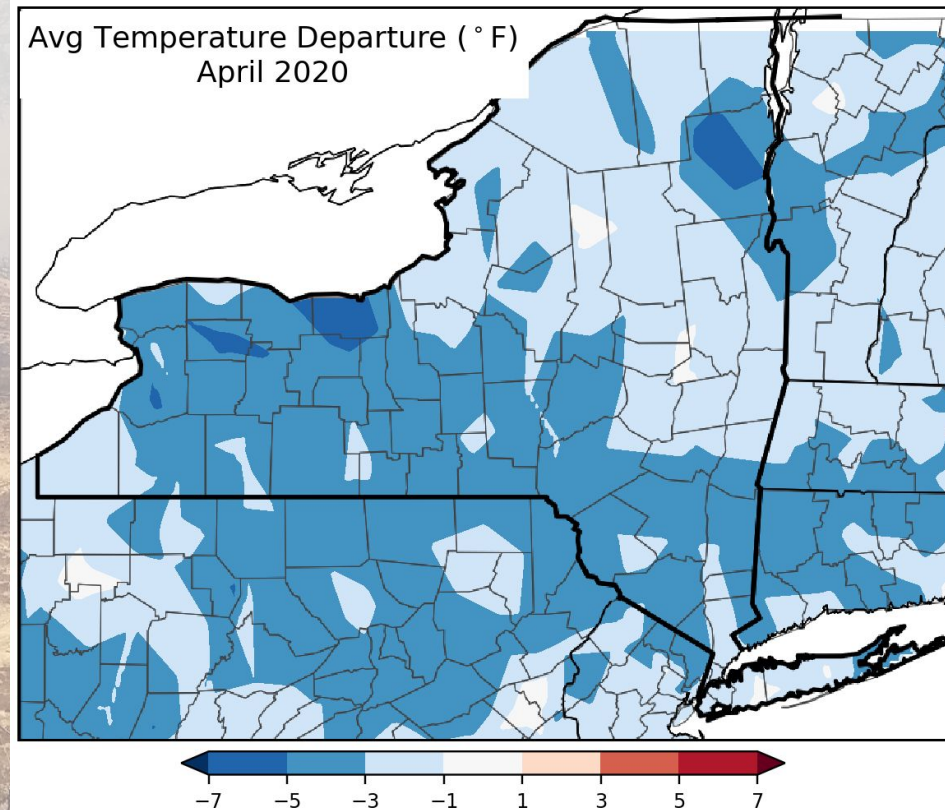
Percent of Normal Precipitation
April 2020



April:

Below normal temps
Near to below normal precip

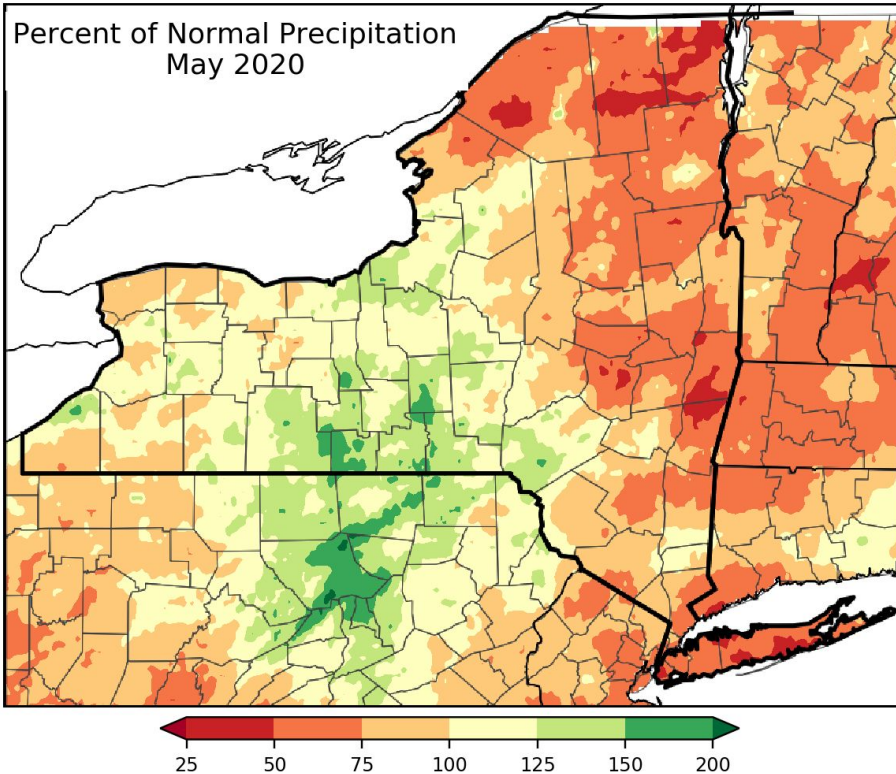
Avg Temperature Departure (°F)
April 2020



- No SPS or RFW issued in April

2020 Fire Weather Season Review

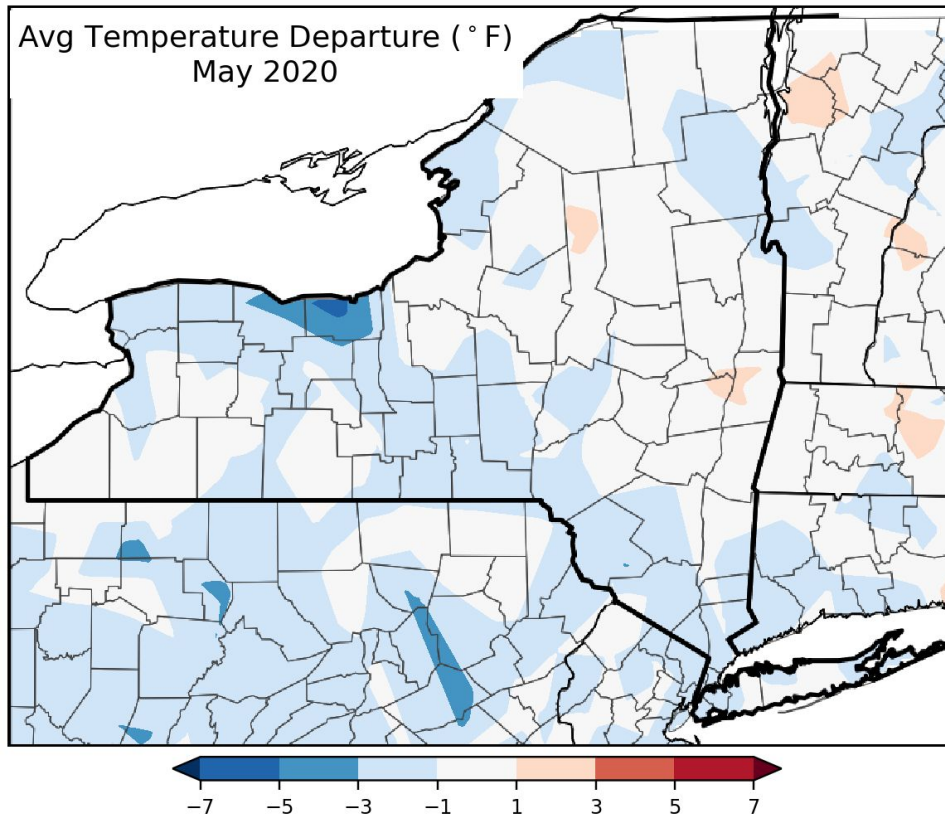
Percent of Normal Precipitation
May 2020



May:

Near normal temps
Below normal precip

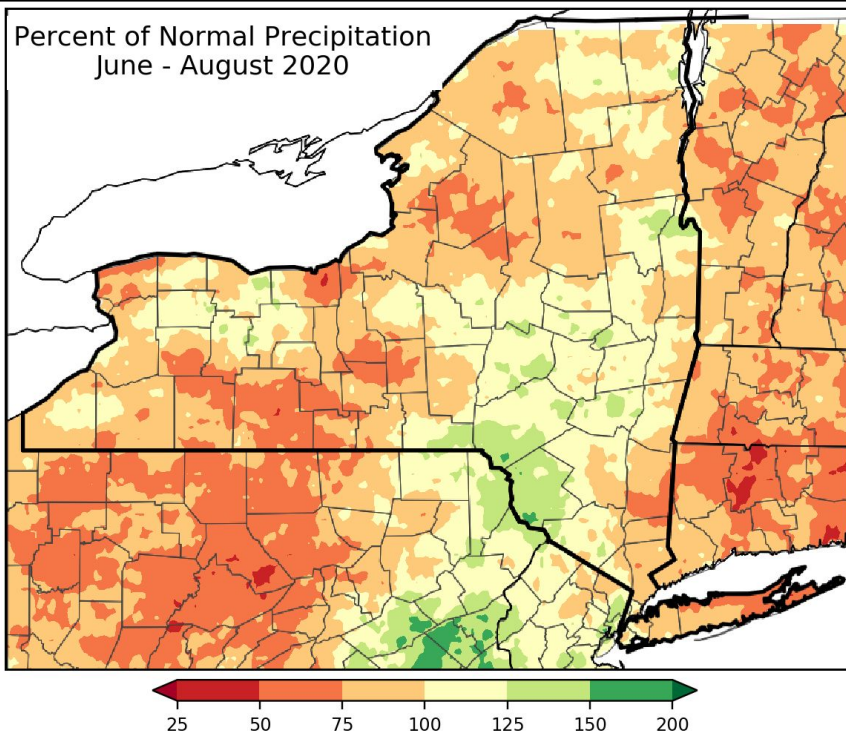
Avg Temperature Departure (° F)
May 2020



- NYSDEC responded to a couple of wildfires in the southern Adirondacks on 3 May

2020 Fire Weather Season Review

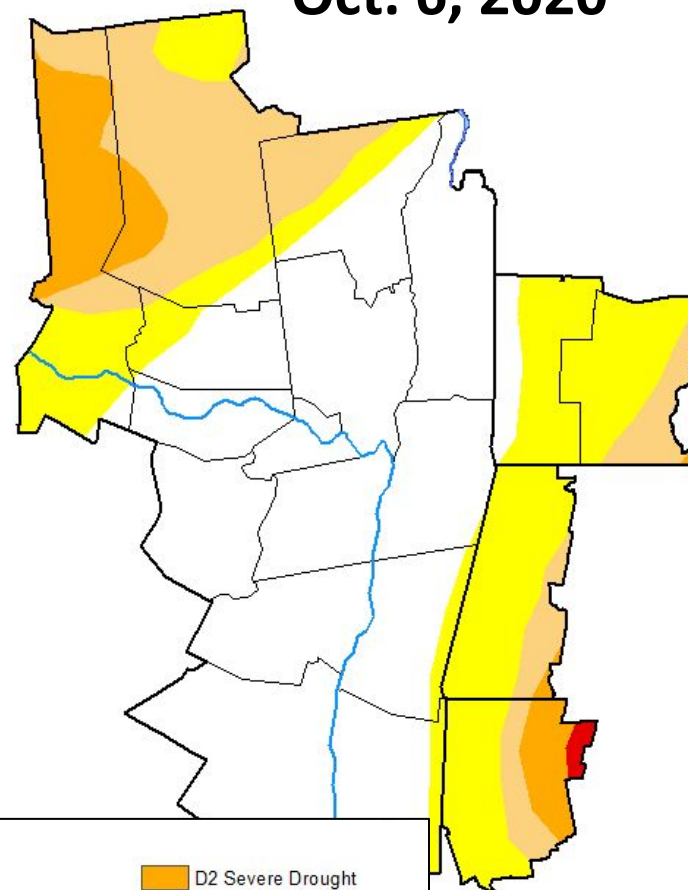
Percent of Normal Precipitation
June - August 2020



Summer/Fall

- Drier than normal ADKs, western New England
- Drought conditions emerged by late June, peaked in the fall
- Numerous small wildfires
- FWW/RFW for Berkshire County 22 Sep

U.S. Drought Monitor
Albany, NY WFO
Oct. 6, 2020



Intensity:





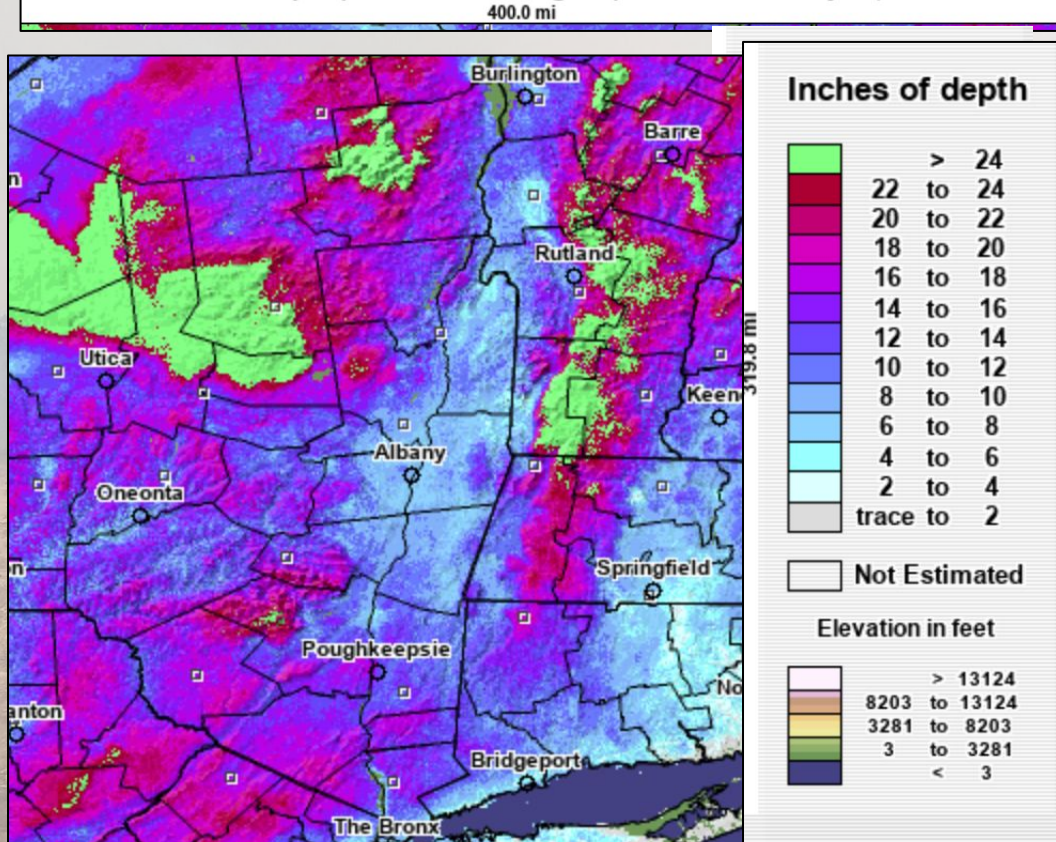
2021 Spring Outlook



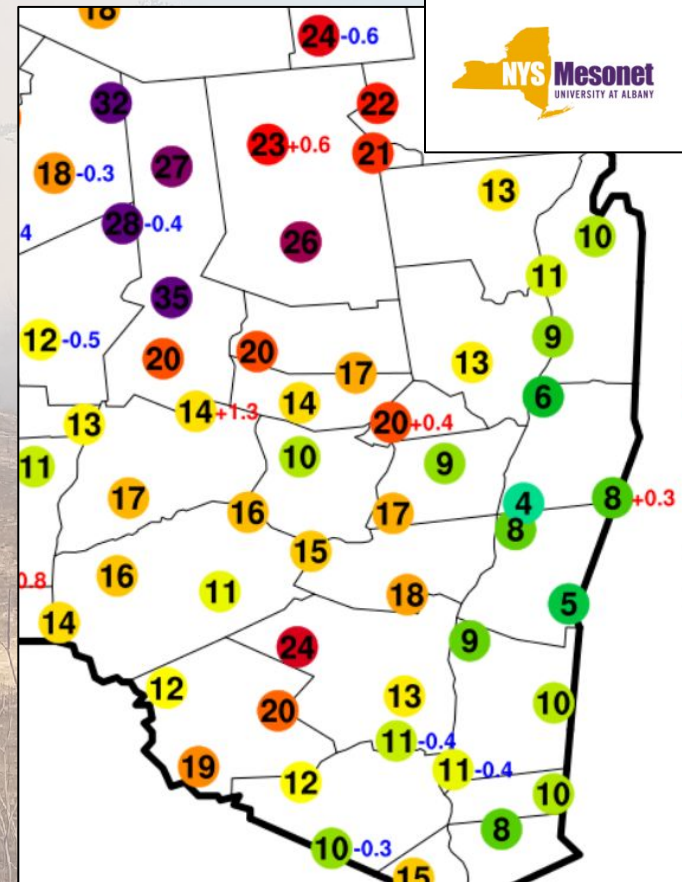
2021 Spring Outlook

CURRENT SNOW DEPTH

Modeled Snow Depth (Shallow-snow Legend) for 2021 February 23, 18:00 UTC



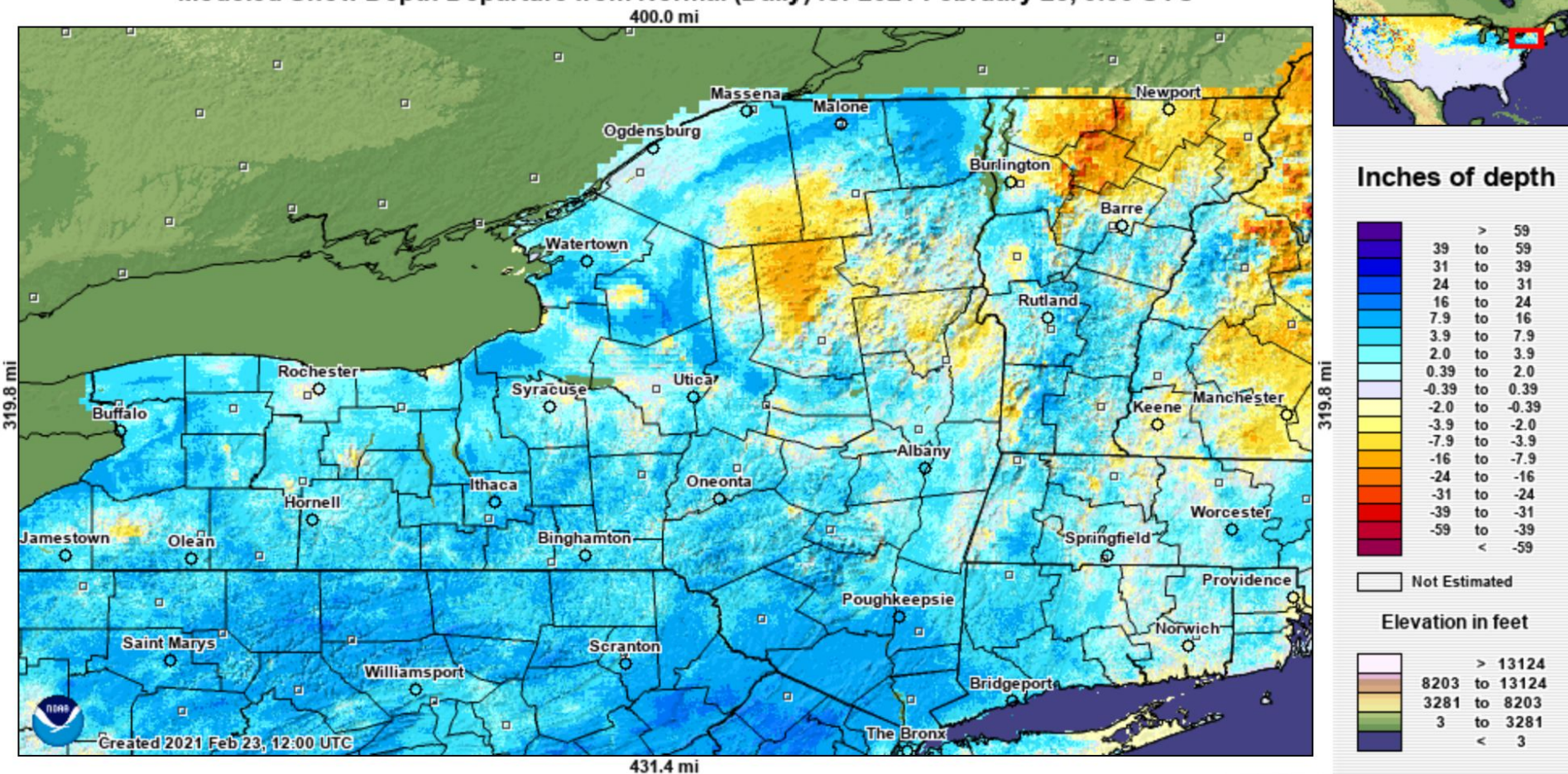
Estimated Snow Depth (in)
Tuesday, 2021-02-23
Valid At 09:05 PM



2021 Spring Outlook

CURRENT ESTIMATED SNOW DEPTH – DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL

Modeled Snow Depth Departure from Normal (Daily) for 2021 February 23, 6:00 UTC

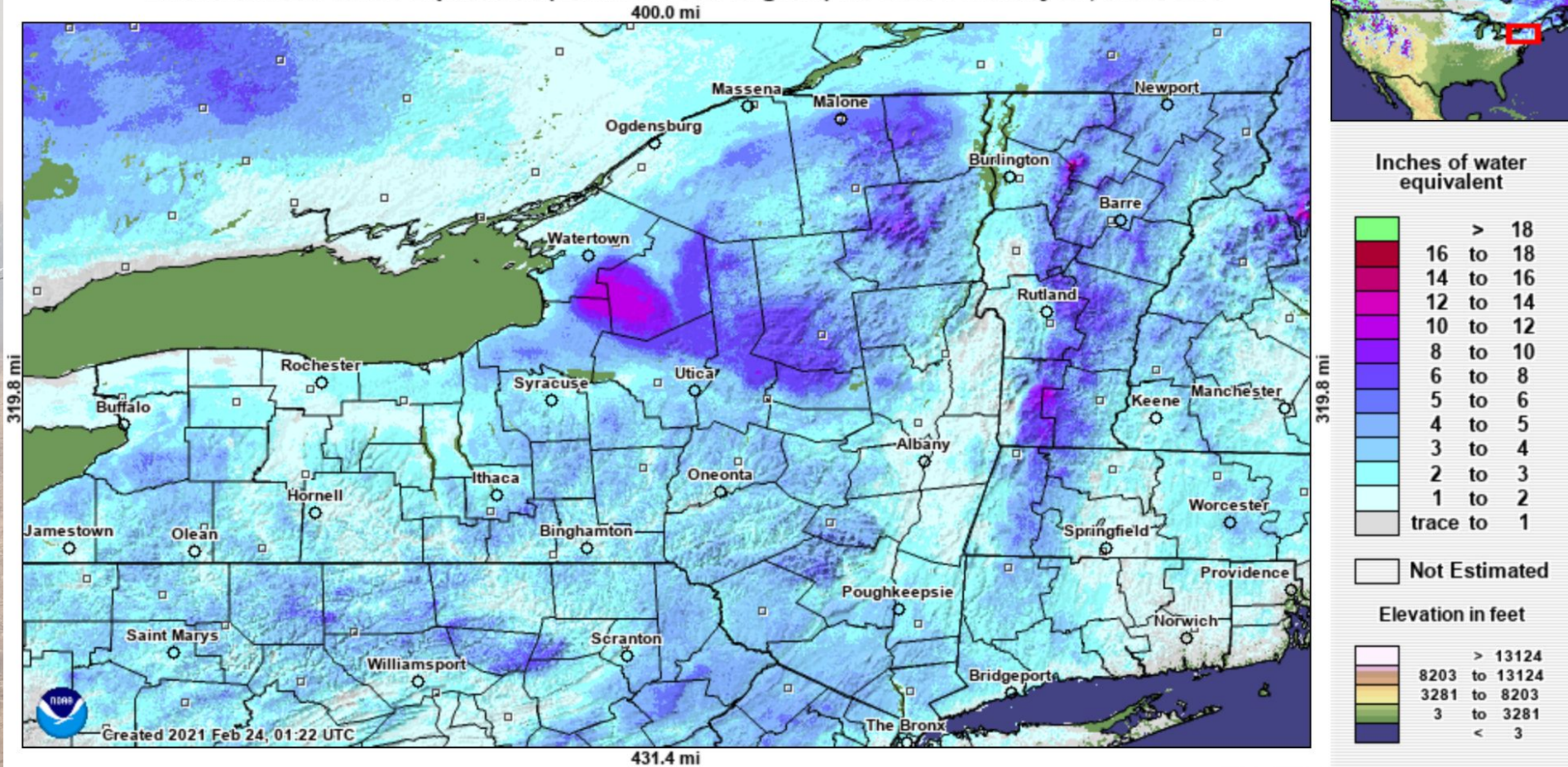


Generally above normal, except below in portions of the Adirondacks

2021 Spring Outlook

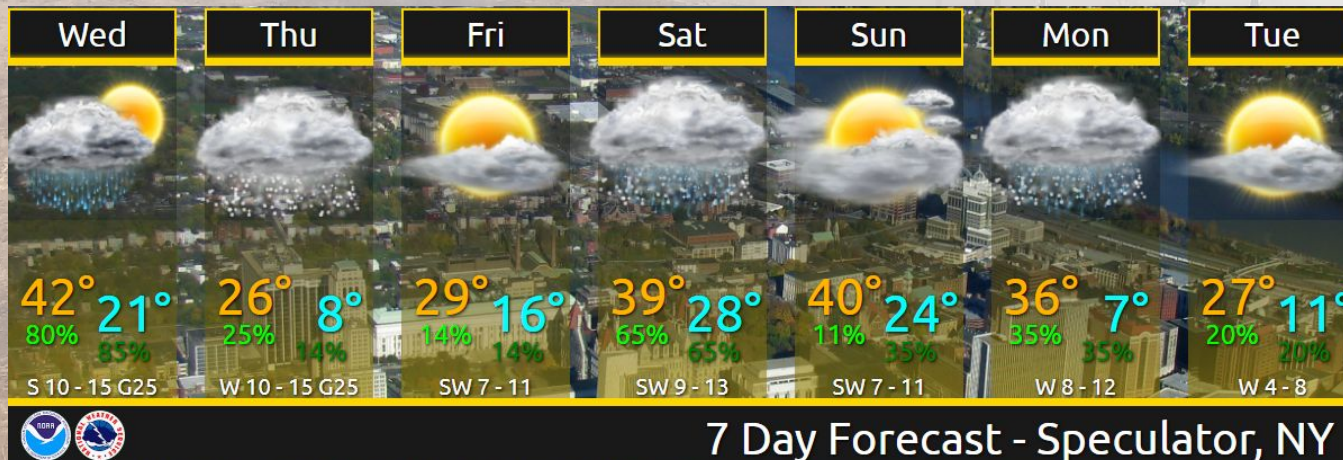
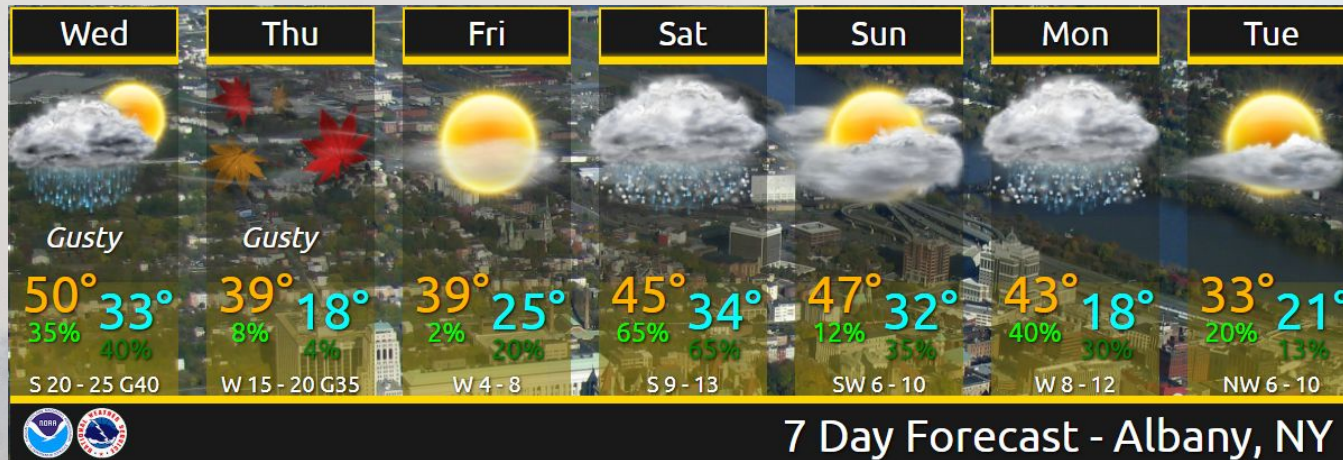
CURRENT ESTIMATED SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT

Modeled Snow Water Equivalent (Shallow-snow Legend) for 2021 February 23, 18:00 UTC



2021 Spring Outlook

7-DAY FORECAST - Feb. 24 to Mar. 2

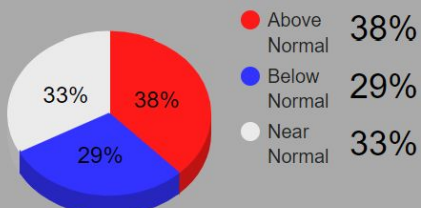


- Milder than normal, some snow melt during the day
- A couple of chance for mainly light precip (mainly rain in valleys, some snow higher terrain)

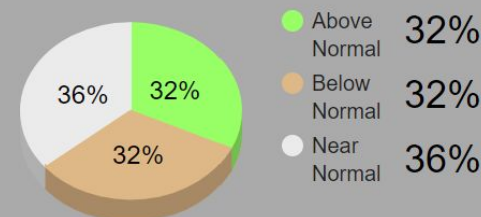
2021 Spring Outlook

- March 3–9 likely near to above normal temps, no signal for precip

Three Category Temperature Outlook
 Normal Maximum Temperature: **40**
 Normal Minimum Temperature: **22**



Three Category Precipitation Outlook
 Normal Precipitation: **0.64**

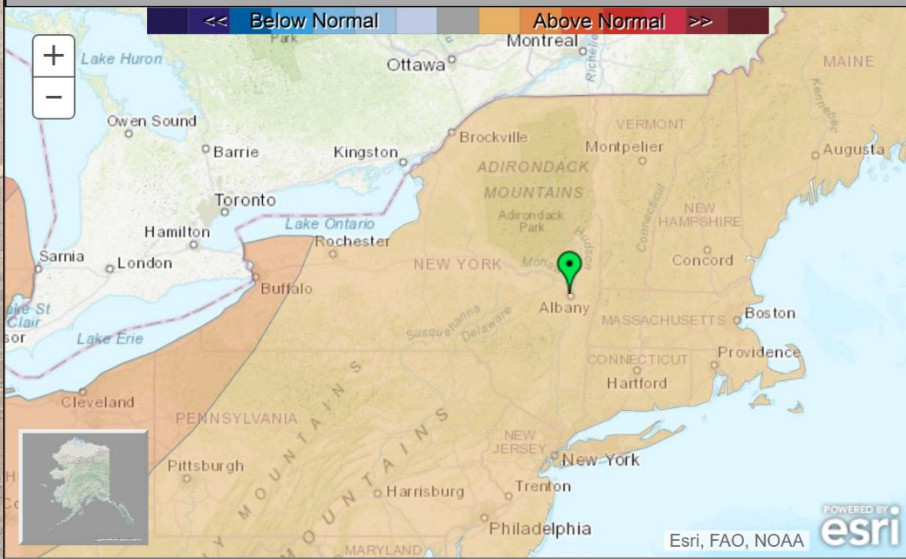


8 to 14 Day Outlook Wednesday March 3 - Tuesday March 9

Temperature
 ● Outlook

Opacity: 60%

Precipitation
 ● Outlook



8 to 14 Day Outlook Wednesday March 3 - Tuesday March 9

Temperature
 ● Outlook

Opacity: 60%

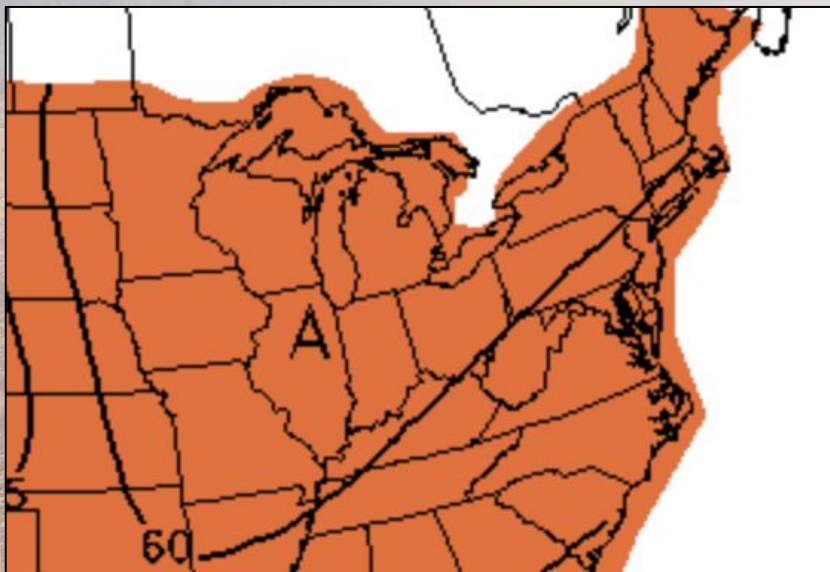
Precipitation
 ● Outlook



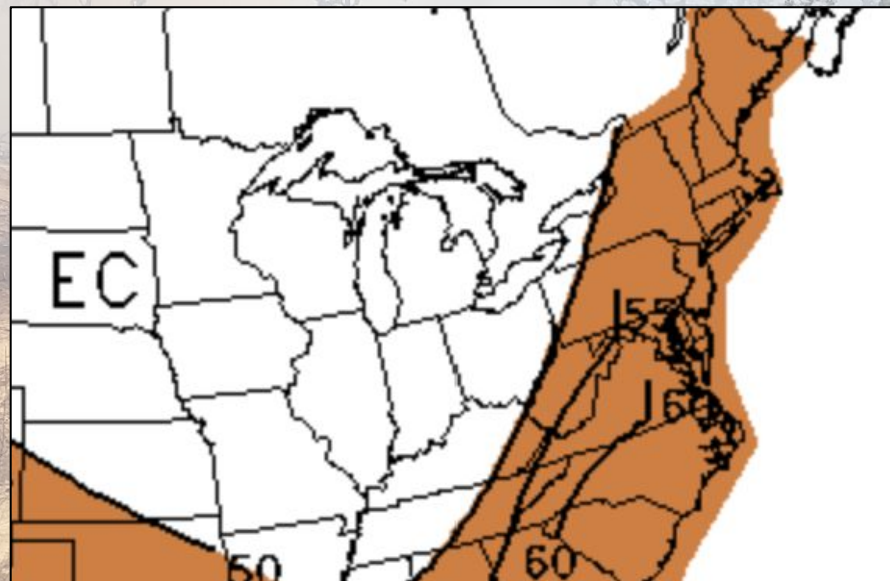
2021 Spring Outlook

- Above normal temps & below normal precip favored mid-March

**Climate Prediction Center
Week 3–4 Temperature Outlook
Valid March 6–19**

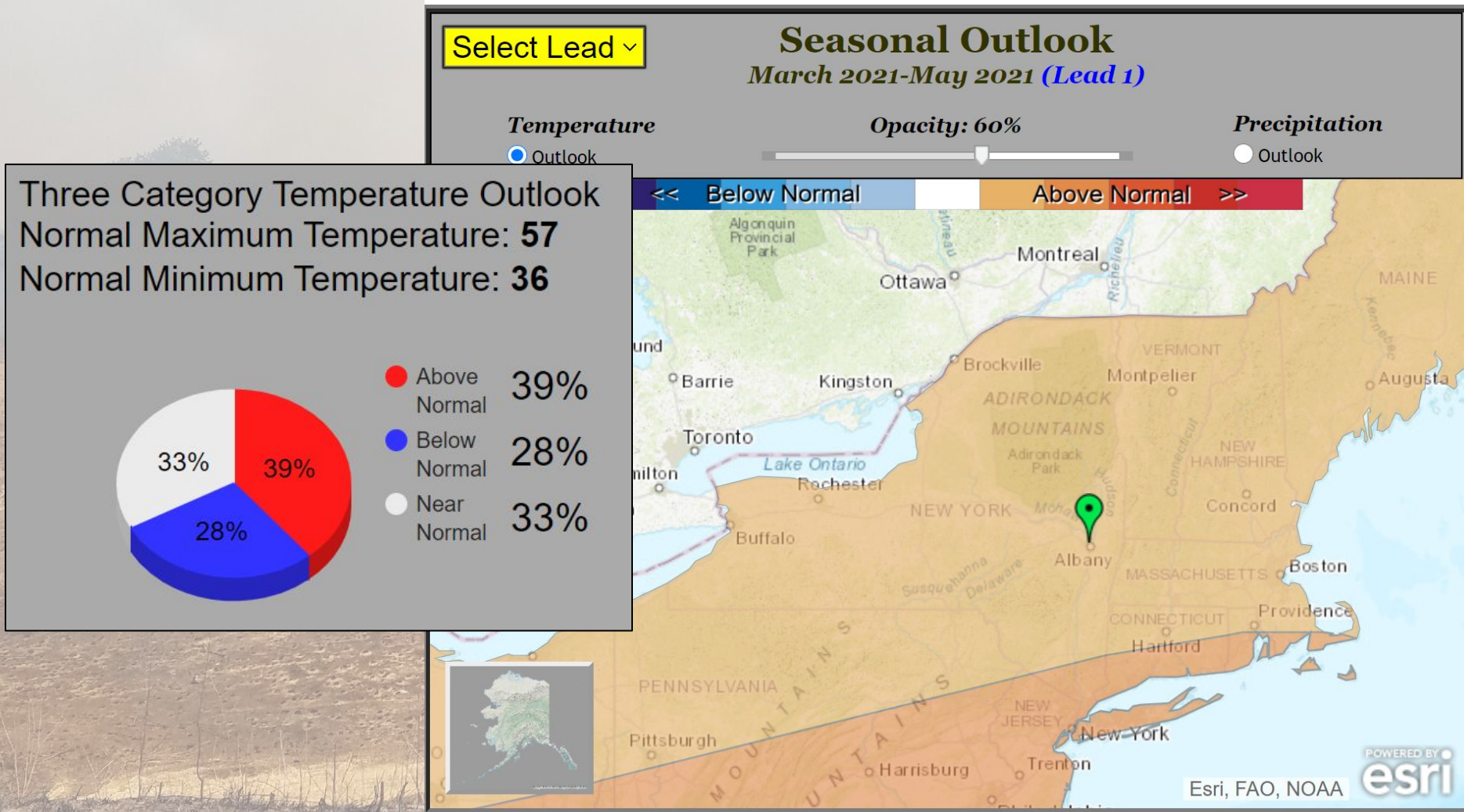


**Climate Prediction Center
Week 3–4 Precipitation Outlook
Valid March 6–19**



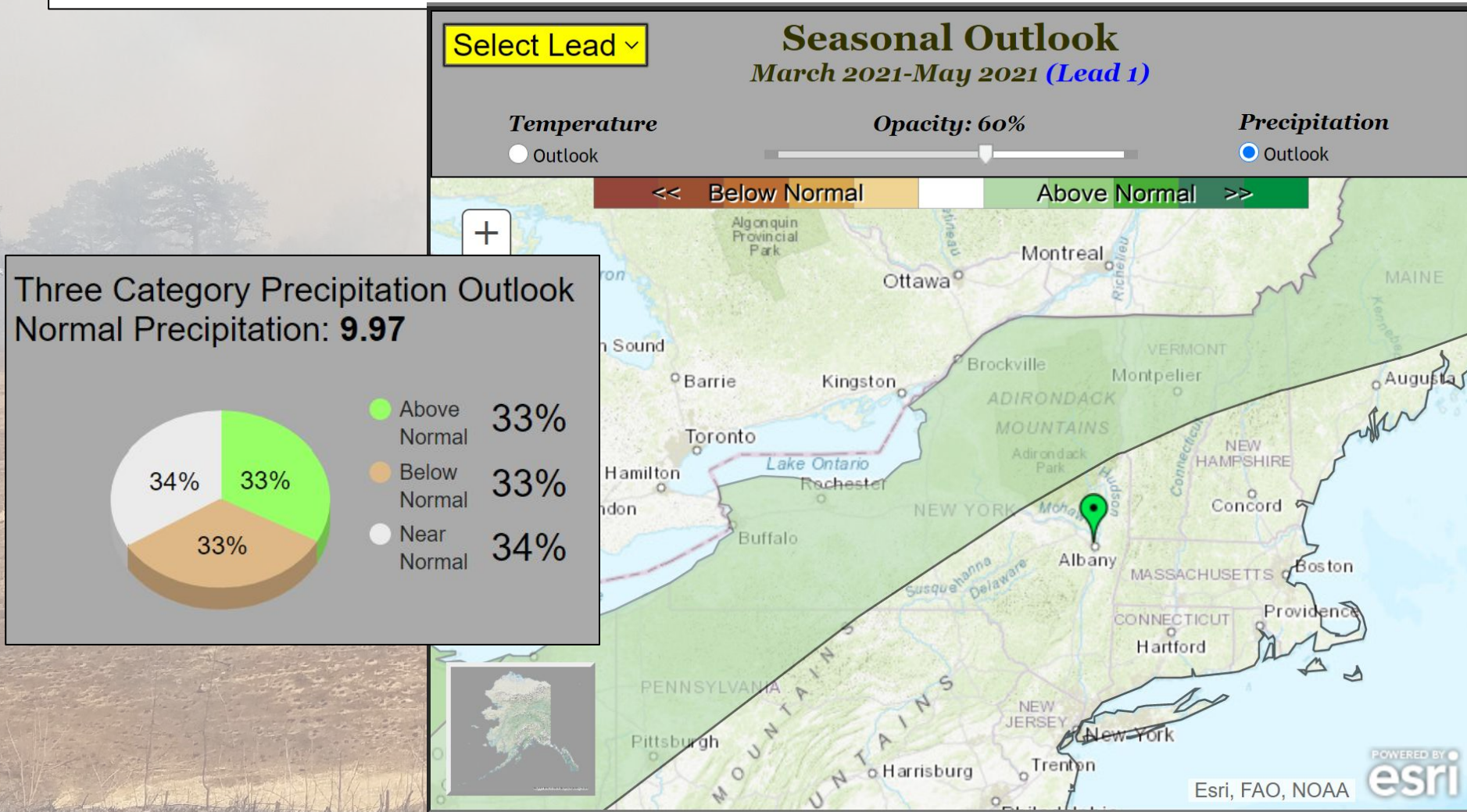
2021 Spring Outlook

- Climate Prediction Center favoring near to above-normal temperatures during spring (MAM)



2021 Spring Outlook

- Climate Prediction Center says no clear signal for precip during spring (MAM)





2021 Spring Outlook



- Snow depth above normal most places as of late Feb.
- Near to above normal temps favored during spring (MAM)
- No clear signal for precip during spring (MAM)





Miscellaneous Items



NEW: One-Page Briefings

- Sent to the NY fire weather email list when we issue a Special Weather Statement for elevated risk of fire spread (usually AM)
- Used to raise situational awareness of fire weather conditions
- A more extensive briefing will be issued for Red Flag Warnings

Elevated Risk of Fire Spread Today



Albany, NY
WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE



OVERVIEW

- Westerly winds gusting to near 20 mph combined with relative humidity values falling below 30 percent in the afternoon will contribute to an elevated risk of fire spread today.

TIMING

- 9 am to 6 pm today

LOCATION

- The risk will be highest over the Mid Hudson Valley, Capital District, and lower elevations of the eastern Catskills, Schoharie Valley, central Mohawk Valley, and Taconics.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

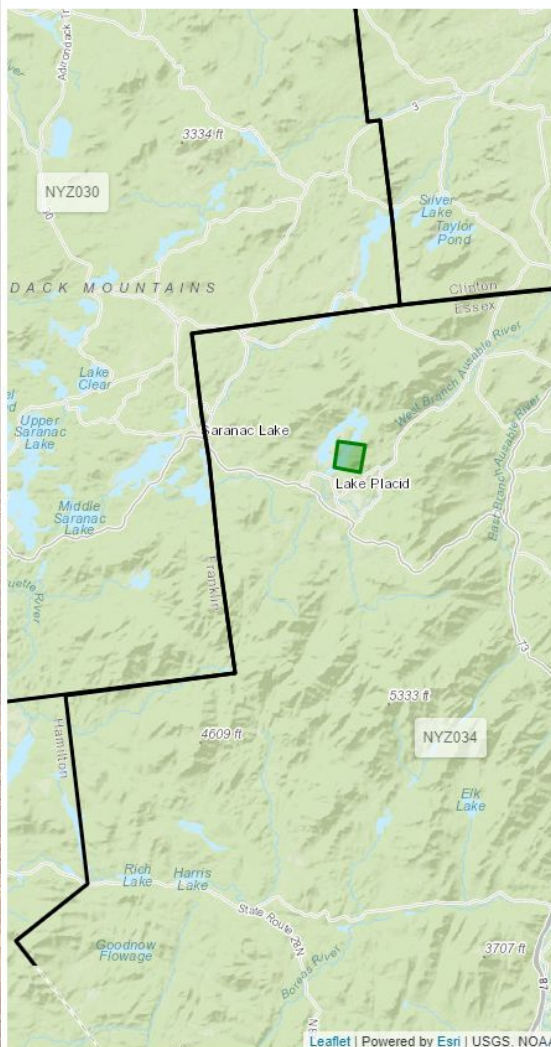
- Rain is expected tonight, bringing and end to the

Feedback welcome:
dan.b.thompson@noaa.gov



NEW: Fire Weather Matrix

- Linked in “Local Products and Forecast” tab of weather.gov/aly/fire
- Point-and-click planning forecast color-coded based on thresholds



Forecast Matrix for 44.3120 -73.97232

For Planning Purposes Only, See SPOT for Official Forecast

	Tue Feb 18	Wed Feb 19	Thu Feb 20	Fri Feb 21	Sat Feb 22	Sun Feb 23
LAL	1	1	1	1	1	1
Min Humidity (%)	75	64	60	62	66	61
Max Wind Gust (mph)	41	32	16	23	25	16
Wind Direction *	S	W	W	W	W	SW
Haines	3	3	5	4	3	2
Max Temperature (F)	36	21	9	22	32	35
Max Humidity (%)	85	88	82	100	84	78
Cloud Cover @1500 (%)	100	62	53	46	53	60
Probability of Precip (%)	100	30	8	5	5	13

	Neutral - Values that Neutralize or Suppress Fire Conditions	Caution - Values that Support Elevated Fire Conditions	Danger - Values that Promote Extreme Fire Conditions
LAL Criteria:	4, 5	2, 3	6
Min Humidity Criteria:	$\geq 30\%$	21 to 29 %	$\leq 20\%$
Max Wind Gust Criteria:	≤ 10 mph	11 to 19 mph	≥ 20 mph
Wind Direction Criteria:	Criticality of wind direction highly dependent on burn operations and/or structures threatened. Direction matches timing of max gust.		
Haines Criteria:	≤ 4	5	6
Max Temp. Criteria:	Temperature thresholds available between June 1 and September 20.		
Max Humidity Criteria:	$\geq 55\%$	35 to 54 %	$\leq 34\%$
Cloud Cover Criteria:	$\geq 40\%$	$< 39\%$	
Probability of Precip Criteria:	$\geq 40\%$	$< 39\%$	

A Critical Weather Day is when 4 or more parameters are Red.

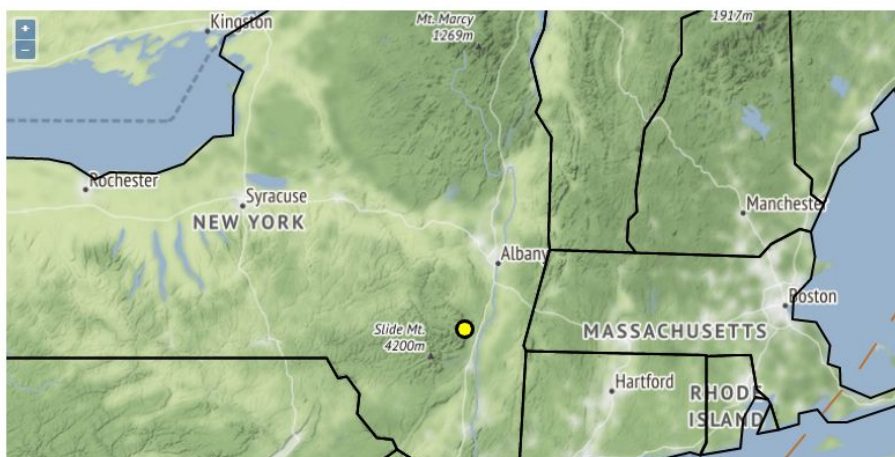
NEW: Fire Wx Dashboard

- Linked in “Local Products and Forecast” tab of weather.gov/aly/fire
- Point-and-click forecast hourly/daily
- Mobile-friendly

Fire Weather Dashboard

[Help](#) | [Change Domain](#) | [Bookmark](#)

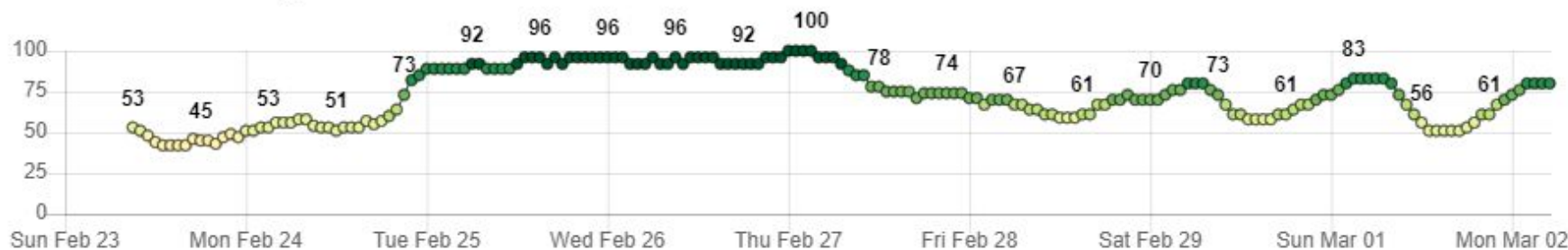
Search...



Hourly Table

Day of week:	Sunday 2/23																							
Time:	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM								
Weather:	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
Temperature:	31	33	35	37	38	39	40	40	40	37	35	34	34	33	32	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
RH (%):	55	53	51	48	44	42	42	42	42	46	45	45	43	47	49	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
Wind Speed (mph):	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	7	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Wind Gust (mph):	7	6	6	6	6	7	6	6	7	7	8	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Wind Direction (°):	270	270	260	250	240	230	230	230	230	230	230	240	240	240	240	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Wind Direction:	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔
20 Ft. Wind Speed (mph):	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
20 Ft. Wind Direction (°):	270	270	260	250	240	230	230	230	230	230	240	240	240	240	240	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
20 Ft. Wind Direction:	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔
Trans. Wind Speed (mph):	5	7	8	9	10	10	10	12	10	8	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Trans. Wind Direction (°):	230	250	260	260	240	230	230	220	220	210	200	200	200	210	210	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
Trans. Wind Direction:	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔
Prob. of Precip.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precip. Amount:																								
Snow:																								
Ice:																								
Sky Cover:	4	4	4	4	4	5	11	15	15	14	14	13	10	8	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Mixing Height (x100ft):	3	7	12	22	31	35	31	23	14	8	4	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Relative Humidity, %





NEW:

Summit Forecasts



weather.gov/aly/mountain

Selected summits
in the southern
Adirondacks,
Catskills, southern
Greens, Berkshires

Mountain Point Forecasts

[Weather.gov](https://weather.gov) > [Albany, NY](https://weather.gov/aly) > Mountain Point Forecasts

Albany, NY
Weather Forecast Office

[Current Hazards](#)

[Current Conditions](#)

[Radar](#)

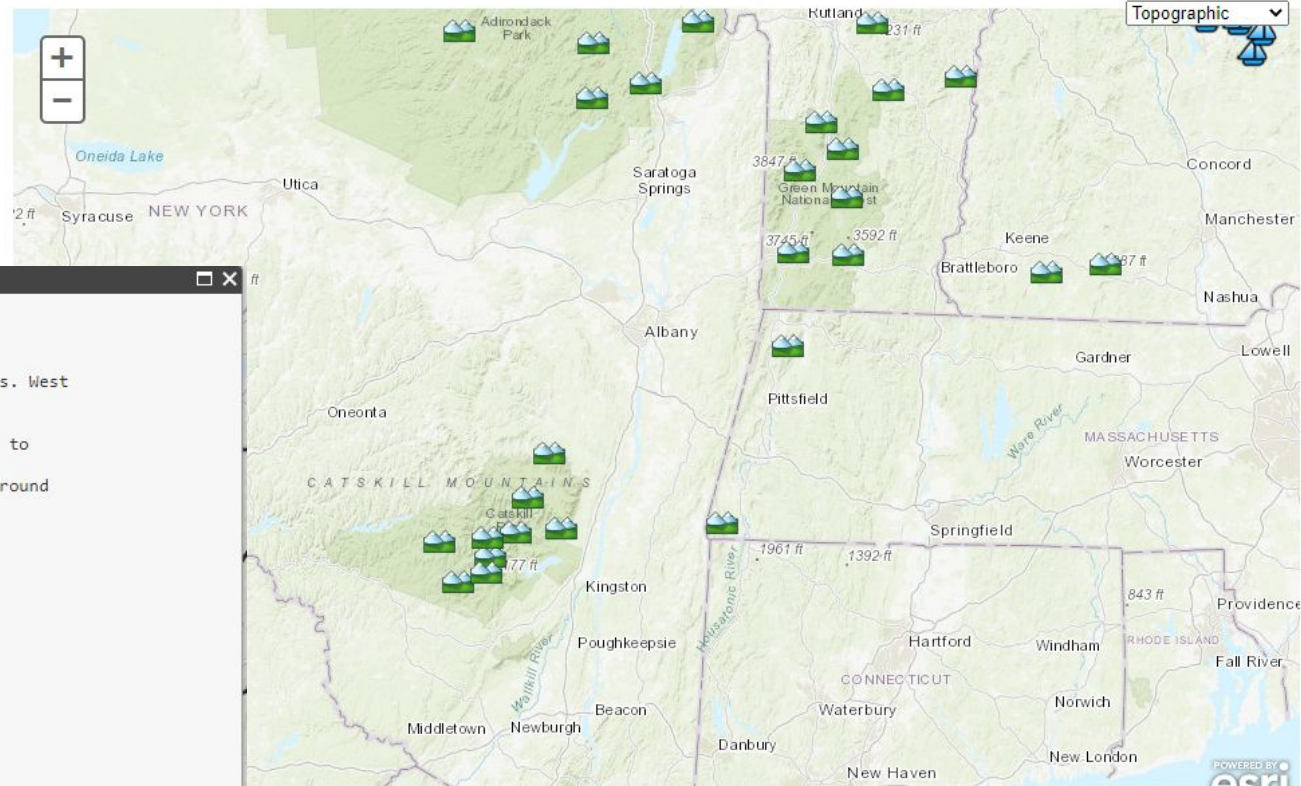
[Forecasts](#)

[Rivers and Lakes](#)

[Climate and Past Weather](#)

[Local Programs](#)

Click an icon on the map to display the forecast for that location, or scroll down the page for text links to all the forecasts



PHAROAH MOUNTAIN

The forecast for Pharaoh Mountain, New York at 2,533 ft:
Last Updated at 259 AM EST Sat Feb 22 2020

.TODAY...Summits obscured in clouds. Highs in the lower 30s. West winds around 15 mph.

.TONIGHT...Summits obscured in clouds until midnight, then becoming mostly cloudy. Lows around 20. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

.SUNDAY...Mostly sunny. Highs around 40. Southwest winds around 10 mph.

Detailed Forecast Data:

DATE	Sat 02/22/20							Sun 02/23/20						
TIME (EST)	06	09	12	15	18	21	00	03	06	09	12	15	18	
TEMP (F)	18	23	28	30	26	26	24	22	21	27	37	40	34	
WIND DIR	SW	W	W	W	W	W	SW	SW	SW	SW	SW	SW	SW	
WIND SPD (MPH)	12	13	13	13	12	11	10	9	9	9	10	11		
WIND GST (MPH)	19	20	20	20	19	17	16	13	13	13	13	16	17	
SKY COVER (%)	10	08	08	08	08	08	08	10	20	24	33	36	33	
WIND CHL (F)	5	11	17	19	15	15	14	12	11	18	30	33	26	
PROP PRECIP (%)	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SNOW AMT (IN)	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	

[New detailed hourly forecast available here!](#)

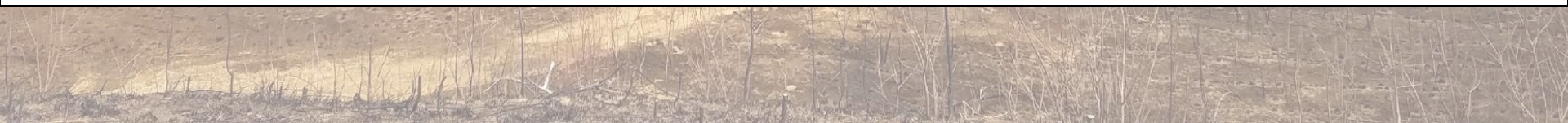
nd out of clouds, OB= Obscured in clouds, AB= Above the clouds

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esri
Product/Service Description Document



2021 NY Burn Ban/Start of NWS Albany Fire Weather Season

**Thursday, March 11th (or earlier if
conditions warrant)**





Open Forum

- NWS Albany COVID-19 operations
- 2021 prescribed burn plans?
- Update on new Fire Danger Rating Areas?



Thank You!

Dan Thompson

NWS Albany

Meteorologist/Fire Weather Program Leader

dan.b.thompson@noaa.gov

Steve DiRienzo

NWS Albany

Warning Coordination Meteorologist

stephen.dirienzo@noaa.gov